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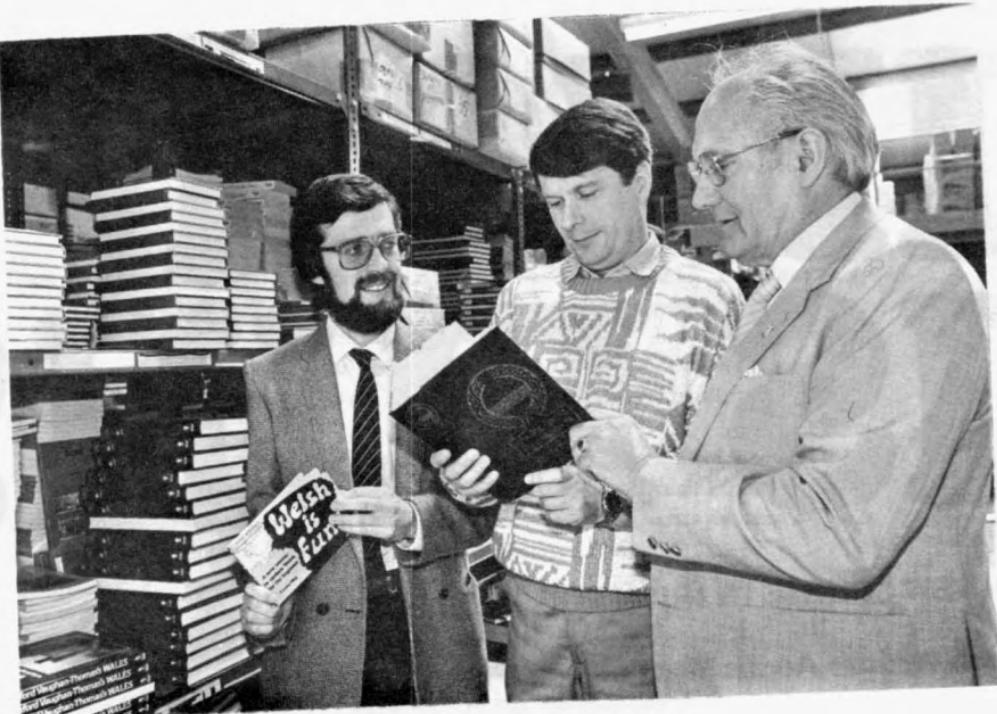
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# **IRISH IS FUN!**

**A NEW COURSE IN IRISH FOR THE BEGINNER**

**Irish version: Aodán Mac Póilín, M.Phil**

Based on the original *Welsh is Fun* by Heini Gruffudd, MA and Elwyn Iorweth



Dymuna'r cyhoeddwyr fynegi eu diolch dwys i John Dudley Davies, Pennaeth Marchnata'r Cyngor Llyfrau Cymraeg, am gael y syniad, ac am ei ymdrechion diflino i'w gael i'r wal; i Seán Mac Mathúna a'r cyfeillion yn Conradh na Gaeilge am eu brwdfrydedd mawr; ac i Diarmuid Ó Cathasaigh, rheolwr Ais, y ganolfan ddosbarthu, am ei waith yn gwerthu'r llyfr mor llwyddiannus.

# Read this first!

1. You want to learn Irish? This book will give you an enjoyable start. We hope that you'll be hooked by the time you finish it.

2. Don't give up. If you can speak English, you can learn Irish. All it needs is time and determination.

3. A little often is the best way.

4. Use your Irish whenever you can. Most Irish speakers are on your side. If you can't understand them, say:

Abair sin arís, le do thoil.

(ab-wer shin ar-eesh, le duh hull)

Say that again, please.

You can add:

Tá mé ag foghlaim (na Gaeilge).

(Taw may eg fow-lum (na Gael-ig-e)

I am learning (Irish).

5. There is a species of superior, snide, sneery, snattery Irish speaker who enjoys making learners feel stupid. If you meet one, spit in his eye: he's an enemy of the language.

You may wish to add:

Póg mo thóin.

(Pogue moh hone)

6. There are two types of people who will criticise this book to you on linguistic/dialect/pedagogic/methodological/lexical/grammatical/moral/aesthetic grounds.

The first type will offer to teach you better. Accept. They probably will.

The second type are begrudgers, pedants, no-hopers, dead-heads. Spit in their eye.

7. If they complain that it's sexist, agree. They're right.

8. There are plenty of other courses and books in Irish for when you've finished this one. Some of them, for example, Linguaphone, Buntús Cainte, Learning Irish, are accompanied by tapes or records.

9. It is very difficult to learn to use a language actively, without lots of practice. Classes are a great help. Even better is a friend who's prepared to talk Irish to you while you learn. If you find one of these, stick to him/her like wallpaper.

10. We have tried to avoid dialect in this book as far as possible. There is a standard spelling and grammar, which simplifies things, but each of the dialects has different ways of saying some things. "How are you? " is "Cad é mar tá tú? " in Ulster, "Cén chaoi a bhfuil tú? " in Connacht, and "Conas tá tú? " in Munster. Pronunciation and stress can also vary. The best advice to the learner is to pick one particular dialect and learn it first. Connacht Irish is the most fashionable at the moment.

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# Spelling & pronunciation

Irish is a more or less phonetic language, but the actual spelling system is quite complex. This is because 18 letters have to be manipulated to cover 60-odd sounds.

(There is no j, k, q, v, w, x, y, z.)

Many sounds in Irish do not exist in English. A native speaker of Irish, or a recording of one, is the best guide, and the following is, of necessity, a poor substitute. If you follow it closely, you will achieve approximately the same degree of inaccuracy as most learners.

## BROAD AND SLENDER CONSONANTS

Every consonant has two sounds, depending on the nearest vowel.

**BROAD VOWELS : A, O, U.**

**SLENDER VOWELS : I, E.**

A broad vowel makes its consonant broad, and a slender vowel makes it slender.

Generally speaking, with a broad consonant the lips are slack, and with a slender consonant they are tensed.

b broad	: almost like 'bw'.
b slender	: similar to English 'b'. Lips tighter.
c broad	: like 'k', tongue further back in mouth.
c slender	: not in English. A 'ky' sound with tongue well forward.
d broad	: like English 'd' in 'Dan', but thicker. Try putting tip of tongue behind lower teeth.
d slender	: like 'd' in 'duke', with tongue behind upper teeth.
f broad	: lips very slack, front upper teeth inside lower lip. Almost like 'fw'.
f slender	: lips very tight, front upper teeth outside lower lip. Rather like 'f' in five.
g broad	: similar to English 'g' in 'got'.
g slender	: almost like 'gy'. Tongue well forward.
l broad	: similar to English 'l' in 'love'.
l slender	: 'ly' sound. Like 'l' in value.

m broad	:	almost like 'mw'.
m slender	:	similar to English 'm'.
n broad	:	similar to English 'n' in 'fun'.
n slender	:	like 'n' in 'new'.
p broad	:	lips very slack.
p slender	:	lips very tight.
r broad	:	like English 'r' in 'run' but broader. Initial 'r' nearly always broad.
r slender	:	impossible to describe. Like a cross between an 'r' and a 'z'.
s broad	:	like English 's' in 'sad'.
s slender	:	like English 'sh'.
t broad	:	like English 't' in 'too', but broader. Put tip of tongue behind lower front teeth.
t slender	:	'tch' sound, as in 'tune'.

## ASPIRATED CONSONANTS

(Consonants followed by a 'h'. The sound is changed.  
For further explanation, see page 67.)

<b>bh</b>	broad :	like 'w' ('v' in Munster)
<b>mh</b>	broad :	like 'w' ('v' in Munster)
<b>bh</b>	slender :	like 'v'
<b>mh</b>	slender :	like 'v'

ch	broad	:	not in English. As in 'loch'.
ch	slender	:	rather like 'h' in 'hue'.
<b>dh</b>	broad	:	1. Initial:— Not in English. A guttural sound at the back of the throat.
<b>gh</b>	broad	:	2. In middle of word:— silent.
		:	3. End of word, -adh = 'oo' as in 'fool'.
<b>dh</b>	slender	:	like a 'y'
<b>gh</b>	slender	:	like a 'y'
<b>fh</b>		:	silent
<b>ph</b>		:	like 'f'
<b>sh</b>	broad	:	like 'h' in 'How'.
<b>th</b>	broad	:	like 'h' in 'How'.
<b>sh</b>	slender	:	like 'h' in 'humid'.
<b>th</b>	slender	:	like 'h' in 'humid'.

## ECLIPSE (see page 67)

This involves replacing an initial letter with another sound. The original letter is written but not spoken.

páirc (park) — a field

i bpáirc (ih bark) — in a field

exception: in eclipsed 'ng' both letters are pronounced.

## ACCENT

In all dialects the accent is usually on the first syllable.  
In Munster it is sometimes on the second or third.  
We have underlined the syllable to be stressed.

## FADA

The *fada* (= long) is the accent like the French acute ('') over a vowel. It makes the vowel long, and sometimes indicates stress.

## SOME VOWELS

*ea* is pronounced like a short 'ah'

*é* is pronounced like 'ay' in 'say'

*í*  
*aoi*} is pronounced like 'ee' in 'see'

her  
ken.

# NA CEACHTANNA

The Lessons

NOW BEGIN!

1



Dia duit.  
(Jee-ah ditch)  
Hello.

Fáilte.  
(fwal-tche)  
Welcome.

2



Dia is Muire duit.  
(Jee-ah iss Mwer-ah ditch)  
Hello (reply).

3

Cad é mar tá tú?  
(cad ay mar taw too)  
How are you?



4

Go maith, go raibh maith agat.  
(guh moyh, guh roe moyh agat)  
Well, thank you.



**5** Go measartha, go raibh maith agat.  
(guh *mass-ar-ha*, guh *roe moyh agat.*)  
*Fair, thanks.*



**6** Imigh leat, a dhiabhaill.  
(im-ee *lyat*, a *yeaw-il*)  
*Take yourself off, you devil.*



**7** Tar isteach.  
(tar iss-tchah)  
*Come in.*



**8** Slán.  
(slawn)  
*Good-bye.*



Cad é mar—how  
maith—good  
go maith—well  
go holc—bad(ly)  
go measartha—fairly well  
tar—come  
téigh—go  
imigh—go (away)  
imigh leat—take yourself off  
slán—goodbye  
isteach—in  
amach—out  
Dia duit—hello  
go raibh maith agat—thanks

### ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

Fáilte . . . . .
Tar isteach . . . . .
Cad é mar tá tú? . . . . .
Go measartha . . . . .
Dia duit . . . . .
Imigh leat . . . . .
Téigh isteach . . . . .
Téigh amach . . . . .
Imigh amach . . . . .
Tar amach . . . . .
Slán . . . . .

Ceacht a Dó  
(Lesson 2)

AN AIMSIR  
(The Weather)

Maidin deas.

(ma-jen jass)

Nice morning.

hata

sun

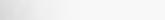
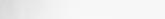
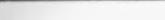
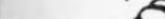
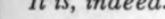
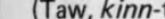
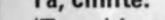
grian (gree-an)

sun

trá (traw)

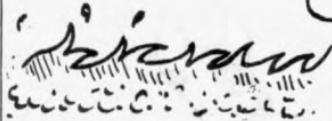
beach

1



Tá sé damanta fuar.

(Taw shay *dam-an-ta* fuar)  
It is damnably cold.

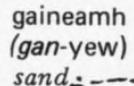
an fharraige  
(an ar-ig-e)  
the sea



léine  
shirt

Tá sé deas te.

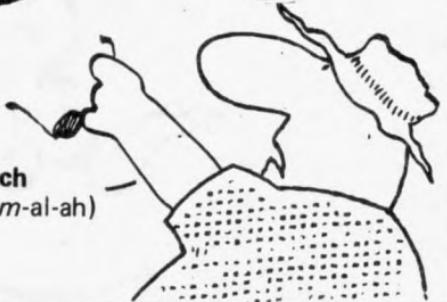
(Taw shay jass tcheh)  
It's nice and hot.

gaineamh  
(gan-yew)  
sand



5

7



Tá sé scamallach

(Taw shay *skam-al-ah*)  
It's cloudy.

16

8

Oíche mhaithanois.

(ee-heh woyh an-ish)  
Good night now.



Tá sé—He/it is  
deas—nice  
te—hot/warm  
fuar—cold  
deas te—nice and hot  
damanta—damnably  
an aimsir—the weather  
oíche—night  
oíche mhaith—good night  
anois—now

### **ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE**

Tá sé deas te .....  
Tá sé te .....  
Oíche mhaith .....  
Tá sé fueranois .....  
Tá sé fuer .....  
Tá an fharraige deas te .....  
Cad é mar tá tú? .....  
Tá sé ag cur .....

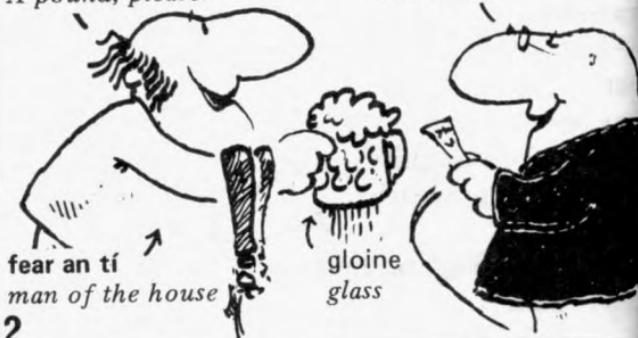
Ceacht a Trí  
(Lesson 3)

SA TEACH TÁBHAIRNE  
(In the Pub)

Pionta, le do thoil.  
(pinn-ta leh duh hull)  
A pint, please.

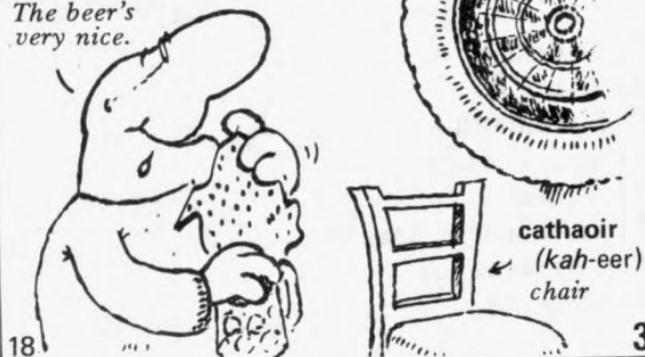


Punt, le do thoil.  
(punt, leh duh hull)  
A pound, please.



Tá an bheoir iontach deas.  
(Taw an veore een-tach jass)

The beer's  
very nice.



Tá sé ag ól cuid mhór.  
(Taw shay ag awl kuj wore)  
He's drinking a lot.

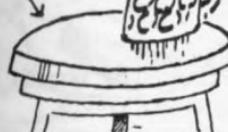
toitín  
(touch-een)  
cigarette

Tá an tine te agus tá mé compordach.

(Taw an chin-ee tcheh agus taw may kump-ord-ach)

The fire's hot and I'm comfortable.

bord  
table

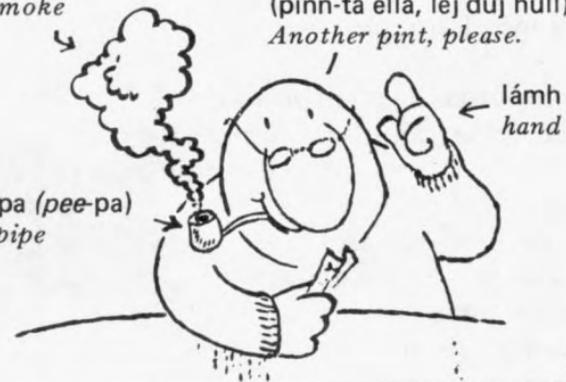


5

toit (touch)

smoke

píopa (pee-pa)  
pipe



Pionta eile, le do thoil.

(pinn-ta ella, lej duj hull)

Another pint, please.

lámh  
hand

6

7



cailín deas  
(kayl-een jass)  
nice girl



muc sheobhaineach fhireann

(muck hove-in-ach irr-en)

male chauvinist pig.

srón  
(srone)

nose



Há! Há! Tá sé óulta  
(Taw shay awl-ta)  
Ha! Ha! He's drunk

urlár  
(ur-lar)

floor

19



tine—fire  
Tá mé—I am  
Tá sí—She is  
**compordach**—comfortable  
eile—other/another (comes after  
the noun)  
agus—and  
le do thoil—please  
**iontach** (adjective)—very  
beoir—beer  
**pionta**—a pint  
punt—a pound  
ag ól—drinking  
ólta—drunk  
**cuid mhór**—a lot  
saor—cheap  
daor—dear

**Note:**

beoir—beer  
an **bheoir**—the beer  
(beoir is feminine)

## UIMHREACHA/NUMBERS

### A. Counting

1. a haon
2. a dó
3. a trí
4. a ceathair
5. a cúig
6. a sé

### B. Counting Things

pionta (amháin)  
dhá phionta  
trí phionta  
ceithre phionta  
cúig phionta  
sé phionta

Notice how the numbers 2-6 affect the words  
following them. (See pages 64 & 67.)

## ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

Tá sí compordach .....  
Tá mé ag ól .....  
Tá sé iontach ólta .....  
Tá an bheoir deas .....  
pionta eile .....  
cailín eile .....

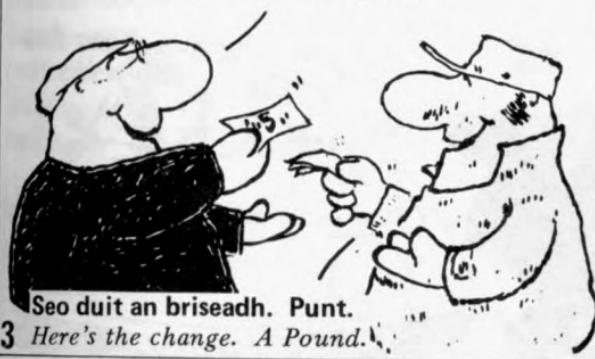
Ceacht a Ceathair  
(Lesson 4)

AN CARR  
(The Car)

1 Luach ceithre phunt de pheitreal, le do thoil.  
Four pounds worth of petrol, please.

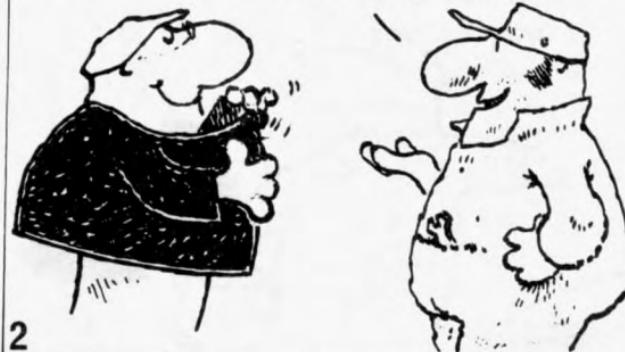


Seo duit. Cúig phunt.  
Here you are. Five pounds.



3 Seo duit an briseadh. Punt.  
Here's the change. A Pound.

Tá an peitreal istigh. Ceithre phunt, le do thoil.  
The petrol is in. Four pounds please.



2

Ba mhaith liom uisce freisin.  
I'd like water too.



4

5

Seo an t-uisce. Maith go leor?  
Here's the water. O.K.?



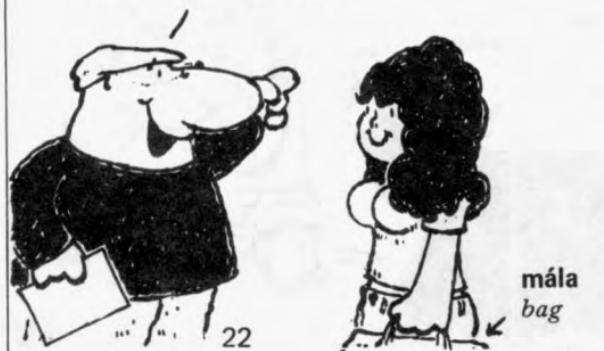
6

Tá an cailín seo ag dul go Cill Áirne.  
This girl's going to Killarney.



7

Tá mé ag dul go Luimneach.  
I'm going to Limerick.



22

8

Tá garda ag teacht go dtí an carr.  
A guard (policeman) is coming to the car.



galún—gallon

Seo duit—Here's/Here you are  
(handing something to  
somebody)

Seo . . . —Here is . . . (showing something)

Seo an carr—Here's the car

Ba mhaith liom—I would like

An cailín seo—This girl

uisce—water

ag dul—going

ag teacht—coming

go  
go dtí —to

freisin—too/also

luach—worth/value

peitreal—petrol

istigh—in(side)

briseadh—change (money)

There's no word for 'a' in Irish.

cailín—girl/a girl

Sometimes you'll see a 'h' after the first letter of a word, e.g. **dhá ghalún, ceithre phunt**.

This is called ASPIRATION, and changes the sound of the letter. For example, 'ph' is pronounced like 'f', 'th' is pronounced like 'h'. (See page 67 for a fuller explanation and pages 7/8 for pronunciation.)

## ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

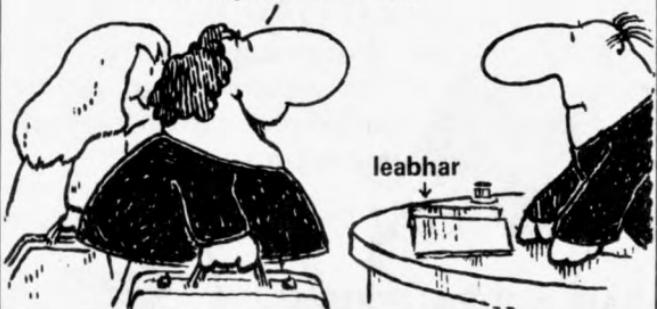
Tá sé ag dul go dtí an carr .....	
dhá phunt, trí phunt .....	
ceithre phunt, cúig phunt .....	
an carr seo .....	
seo an garda .....	
seo an cailín .....	
seo duit .....	
Ba mhaith liom uisce .....	

Ceacht a Cúig  
(Lesson 5)

SA TEACH ÓSTA  
(In the Hotel)

1

Thángamar ó Luimneach.  
*We came from Limerick.*



2 Ba mhaith linn fanacht anseo anocht.  
*We would like to stay here tonight.*



5

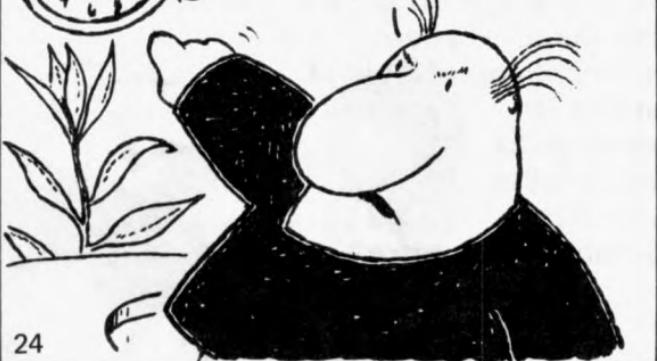
Ba mhaith  
They wou

7

Ar m  
Woul



clog  
Tá sibh mall.  
*You are late.*



24

3

Dar Dia, nílimid. Táimid luath.  
*By God, we aren't. We're early.*

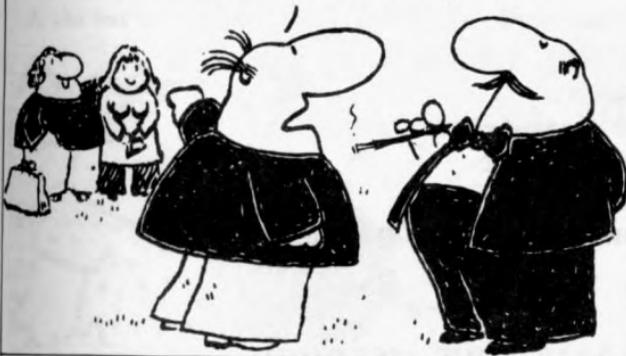
4



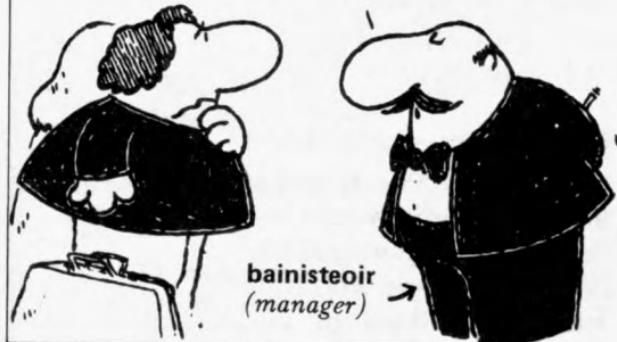
7

Ar m  
Woul

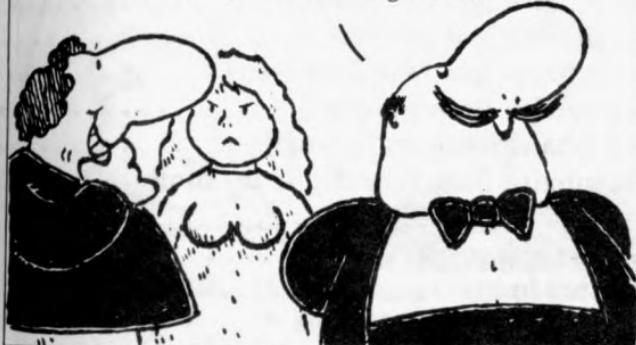
5 Ba mhaith leo leaba agus bricfeasta.  
They would like bed and breakfast.



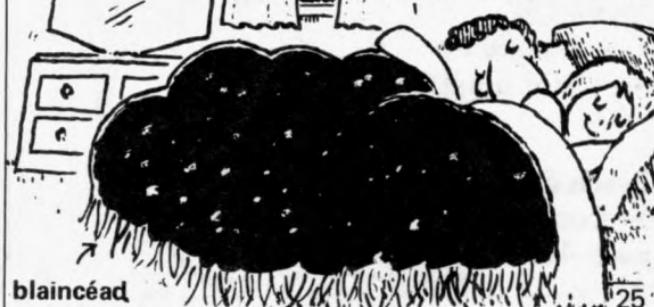
6 Sin cúig phunt is fiche an duine.  
That's twenty-five pounds each.



7 Ar mhaith libh leaba singil?  
Would you like a single bed?



8 cuirtíní  
Anois tá siad ina luí.  
Now they are in bed.



Táimid—we are  
Tá sibh—you (pl) are  
Tá siad—they are  
Nílimid—we are not

Ba mhaith liom—I would like  
Ba mhaith leat—you would like  
Ba mhaith leis—he would like  
Ba mhaith léi—she would like  
Ba mhaith linn—we would like  
Ba mhaith libh—you (pl) would like  
Ba mhaith leo—they would like  
Ar mhaith leat . . . ? —would you like . . . ?  
Ar mhaith libh . . . ? —would you (pl)  
like . . . ?

## ANSWER

Yes—Ba mhaith  
No—Níor mhaith

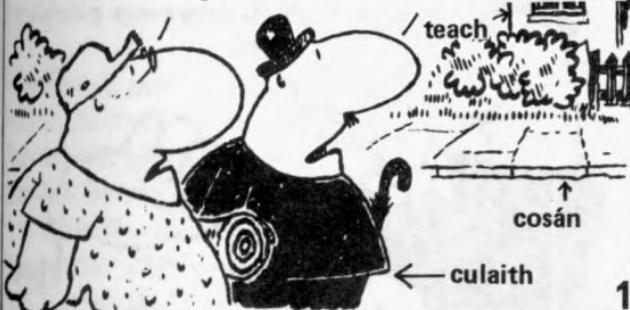
**Teach ósta**—hotel  
ó—from  
mall—late

**luath**—early  
**fanacht**—to stay (wait)  
**anocht**—tonight  
**leaba**—bed  
**bricfeasta**—breakfast  
**anseo**—here  
**duine**—a person  
**punt an duine**—a pound each

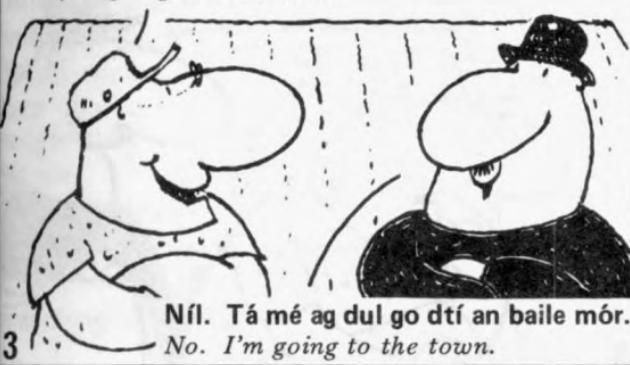
# **ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE**

Ar mhaith leat bricfeasta?	.....
Ar mhaith leat pionta?	.....
Ar mhaith leat fanacht anseo?	.....
Ba mhaith liom pionta	.....
Ba mhaith liom leaba singil	.....
Ba mhaith liom fanacht, le do thoil	.....
Tá mé mall	.....
Tá siad luath	.....

An bhfuil an bus ag teacht? Níl. Tá an bus mall.  
Is the bus coming? No. The bus is late.



An bhfuil tú ag dul go dtí an trá?  
Are you going to the beach?



Níl. Tá mé ag dul go dtí an baile mór.  
No. I'm going to the town.



An bhfuil sé ag teacht anois?  
Is it coming now?

Tá, buíochas le Dia.  
Yes, thank God.

Ticéad go dtí an trá, agus ticéad go dtí an baile mór.  
A ticket to the beach, and a ticket to the town.



Go raibh maith agat.  
Thanks.

5

Ticéad duit féin agus do do chara?  
*A ticket for yourself and for your friend?*



Cinnte, dhá thicéad.  
*Certainly, two tickets.*

6

Cé mhéad?  
*How much?*



Punt agus caoga pingin.  
£1.50

Cérb as duit?

*Where are you from?*

Doire. Cérb as duit féin?

*Derry. Where are you from yourself?*

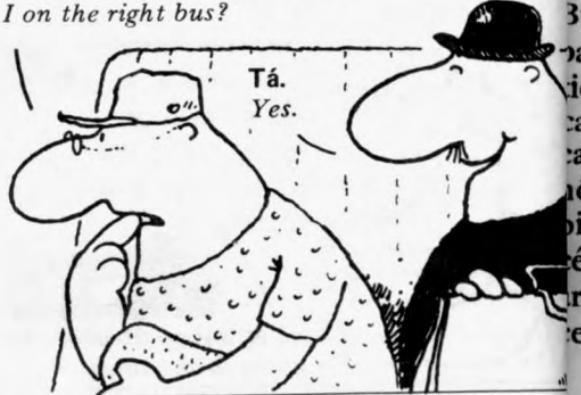
Baile Átha Cliath.

*Dublin.*

28

7

An bhfuil mé ar an bhus cheart?  
*Am I on the right bus?*



8

In Irish, to say *YES* or *NO*, you repeat the verb. In this case, 'Tá' (Yes) and 'Níl' (No).

An bhfuil mé? —Am I?

An bhfuil tú? —Are you?

An bhfuil sé? —Is he?

An bhfuil sí? —Is she?

An bhfuilimid? —Are we?

An bhfuil sibh? —Are you (pl.)?

An bhfuil siad? —Are they?

Búochas le Dia—Thank God

baile mór—town

ticéad—ticket

cara—friend

caoga—fifty

nó—or

pingin—a penny

cérб as duit? —where are you from?

ar—on

ceart—right/correct

A. Counting

7. a seacht

8. a ocht

9. a naoi

10. a deich

B. Counting Things

seacht bpunt

ocht bpunt

naoi bpunt

deich bpunt

Seven to ten *eclipse*. The 'p' in punt is not pronounced when eclipsed. 'Eight pounds' is pronounced 'ocht bunt'. (See page 67.)

ANSWER 'YES' and 'NO'

An bhfuil mé mall? .....

An bhfuil sibh luath? .....

An bhfuil tú sa leaba? .....

An bhfuil sé anseo? .....

An bhfuil sé ag teacht? .....

ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/

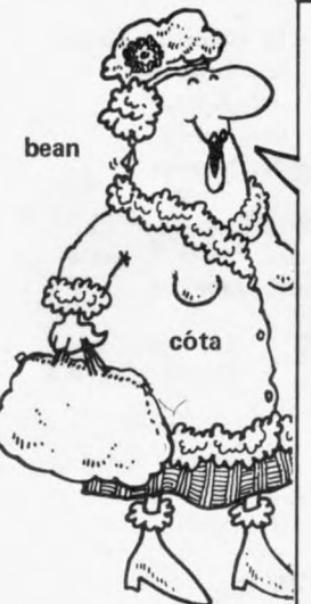
SAY AND TRANSLATE

Cé mhéad? .....

Tá an bus ag teacht .....

Cérб as duit? .....

Tá sé ar an bhus cheart .....



subh (jam)



30

Ba mhaith liom . . .  
*I would like . . .*

Tabhair dom . . .  
*Give me . . .*

cáis  
punt ime  
pionta bainne  
dhá phunt siúcra  
cúpla úll  
mála prátaí  
meacain dearga  
builín aráin  
bosca uibheacha  
canna anraith  
canna bradáin . . .

. . . le do thoil  
*(please)*

£1.30 an punt

im  
(butter)



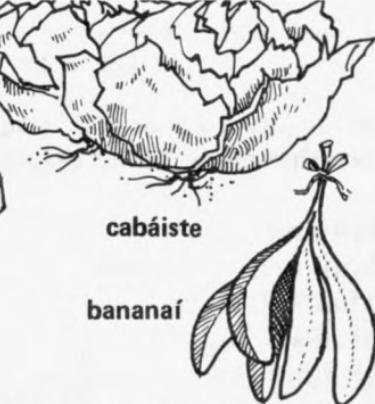
cáis (cheese)



bradán (salmon)

cabáiste

bananaí



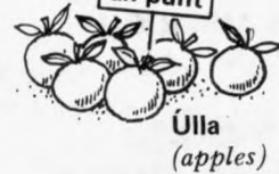
An bhfuil gallúnach agat?  
*Have you soap?*

salach  
dirty





Bainne  
(milk)



Úlla  
(apples)



(sugar)



Piseanna  
(peas)



Meacain  
dearga  
(carrots)



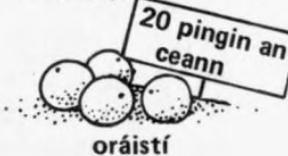
Uibheacha  
(eggs)

Haí, a dhuine, an bhuil  
toitíní agat?

Hey man, have you cigarettes?



Arán  
bread



oráistí



Punt ochtó is a  
naoi bpingin an  
bosca. Rud ar  
bith eile?  
£1.89 per packet.  
Anything else?



anraith  
(soup)



bróga (shoes)



stocáí (socks)

**Tabhair dom**—give me  
**punt**—a pound  
**mála**—bag  
**builín aráin**—a loaf of bread  
**bosca**—box  
**canna**—tin  
**cúpla**—a couple of (takes singular)  
**cúpla úll**—a couple of apples  
Numbers also take the singular  
**cúig úll, dhá ubh**  
... an ceann — ... each  
**bean**—woman  
**an bhean**—the woman ('bean' is feminine)  
**duine**—person  
**rud ar bith**—anything  
**ochtó**—eighty

## ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

**Tabhair dom builín aráin** .....  
**Tabhair dom dhá phunt prátaí** .....  
.....  
**Tabhair dom bosca toitíní** .....  
**Tabhair dom siúcra** .....  
**Le do thoil** .....  
**An bhfuil úlla agat?** .....  
**An bhfuil bainne agat?** .....  
**An bhfuil cóta agat?** .....  
**Rud ar bith eile?** .....  
**Ba mhaith liom cúpla úll, le do thoil** .....  
.....

## FREAGAIR/ANSWER

**An bhfuil oráistí agat?** .....  
(See page 29.)  
**An bhfuil toitín (singular) agat?** .....  
.....  
**Ar mhaith leat toitín?** .....  
(See page 26.)  
**Ar mhaith leat bainne?** .....

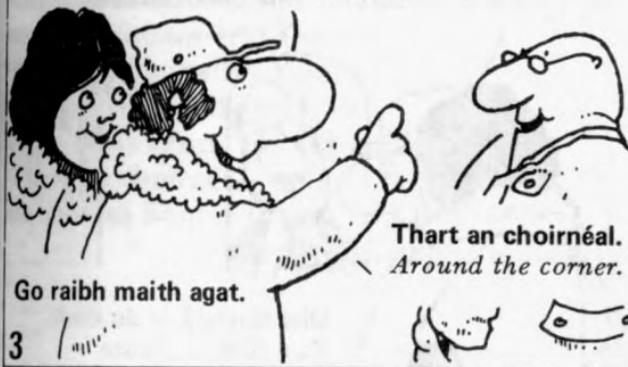
Ceacht a hOcht  
(Lesson 8)

SA BHAILE MÓR  
(In the Town)

Táimid ag dul amach anocht.  
We're going out tonight.



Gabh mo leithscéal. Cá bhfuil an phictiúrlann?  
Excuse me. Where is the cinema?



Go raibh maith agat.

Thart an choirnéal.  
Around the corner.

2 Ar mhaith leat dul go dtí an phictiúrlann?  
Would you like to go to the cinema?

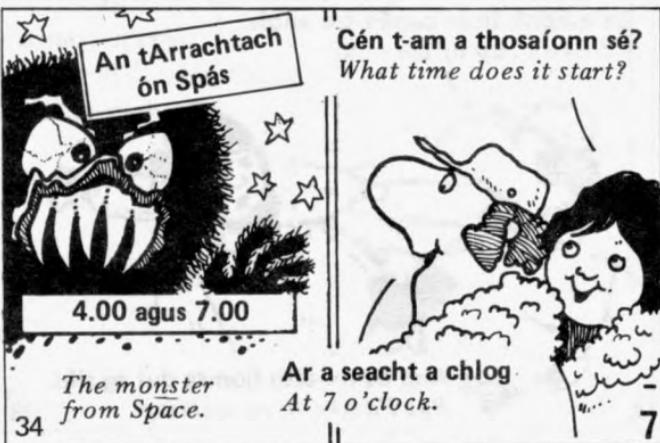
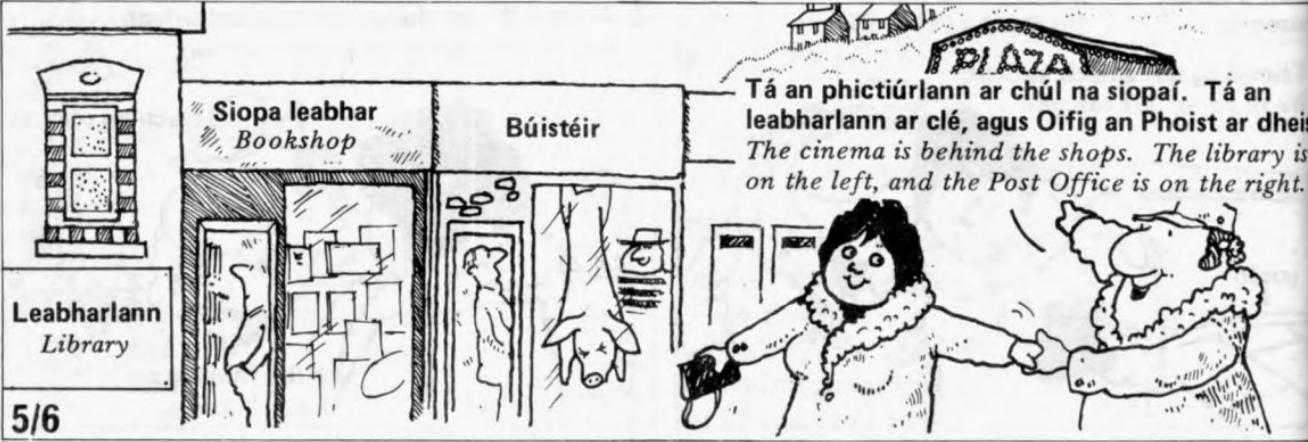


Níl a fhios agam  
I don't know.

Ba mhaith liom cupán taeanois.  
I'd like a cup of tea now.



Ach ba mhaith liomsa dul ag siúl.  
But I'd like to go walking.



Cé mhéad atá?  
Cén t-am? —What time?  
Cén t-am é? —It's...  
Cá bhfuil—Where?  
Cupán tae—a clock.  
a chlog—o'clock.  
Tá sé a haon de...  
Tá sé a dó dhéanamh.  
Gabh mo leithreas—Use the toilet.  
leithreas—toilets.  
Oifig an Phoist—Post office.  
an Phictiúrlann—Cinema.  
Teach an Phoblaigh—Town hall.  
Leabharlann—Library.  
Níl a fhios agam—I don't know.  
Thart an choirn—It's a pity.  
Ba mhaith liom—It's nice of you.

i. Tá an  
hoist ar dheis.  
*The library is  
on the right.*



n ceann.  
8



do thoil.  
*Please.*

Cé mhéad atá ar . . .? —How much is . . .?  
Cén t-am? —What time?  
Cén t-am é? —What time is it? (See p.65.)  
Cá bhfuil—Where is . . .?  
Cupán tae—a cup of tea  
a chlog—o'clock  
Tá sé a haon déag a chlog—It's 11 o'clock  
Tá sé a dó dhéag a chlog—It's 12 o'clock  
Gabh mo leithscéal—Excuse me  
leithreas—toilet  
Oifig an Phoist—the Post Office  
an Phictiúrlann—the Cinema  
Teach an Phobail—church  
Leabharlann—Library  
Níl a fhios agam—I don't know  
Thart an choirnéal—around the corner  
Ba mhaith liomsa—I would like  
(emphatic form)

## ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

Táimid ag siúl anocht .....  
Níl a fhios agam .....  
Gabh mo leithscéal .....  
Cén t-am é? .....  
Tá sé .....  
a hocht a chlog (See page 65.)  
a naoi a chlog  
a dó a chlog  
a cúig a chlog  
Cé mhéad atá ar . . .  
bhuilín araín? .....  
mhála prátaí? .....  
phionta bainne? .....  
Cá bhfuil . . .  
Oifig an Phoist?  
an Leabharlann?  
an Leithreas?

Ceacht a Naoi  
(Lesson 9)

OBAIR  
(Work)

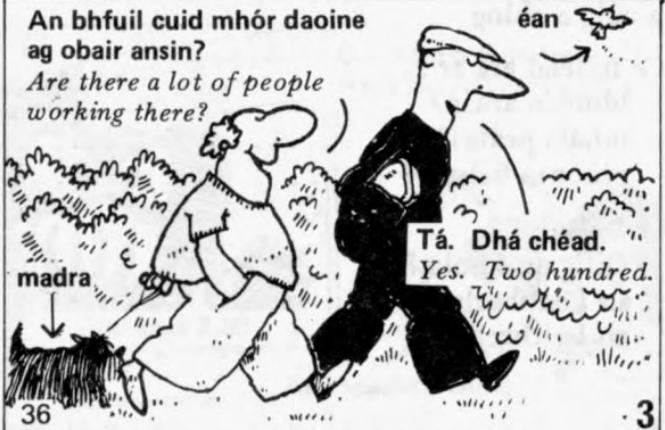
Cá bhfuil tú ag obair?

Where are you working?



An bhfuil cuid mhór daoine ag obair ansin?

Are there a lot of people working there?



Cá bhfuil tú ag dulanois?

Where are you going now?



in. 2

Cad é sin?  
What's that?

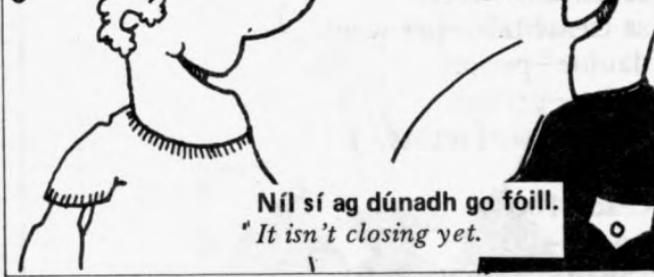
5



Sin an mhonarcha.  
That's the factory.

An bhfuil an mhonarcha ag dúnadh?  
Is the factory closing?

6



Níl sí ag dúnadh go fóill.  
It isn't closing yet.

4

Tá an t-ádh leat.  
You're lucky.



Tá, go díreach.  
Yes, indeed.

7



Tá an madra ag dul abhaileanois.  
The dog's going home now.

8

Tá mise ag dul abhaile freisin. Slán.  
I'm going home too. Goodbye.

**ag obair**—working  
**ag fáil**—getting  
**seachtain**—week  
**sa tseachtain**—per week  
**daoine**—people  
**duine**—person  
**monarcha**—factory  
**sa**—in the  
**céad**—100  
**nócha**—90  
**abhaile**—home(wards)  
**cad é sin**—what's that  
**ag dúnadh**—closing  
**go fóill**—yet  
**Tá an t-ádh leat**—you're lucky  
**go díreach**—indeed  
**madra**—dog  
**Tá mise**—*emphatic form of Tá mé* (I am)  
**Slán**—Goodbye

### ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

Tá sé ag obair .....  
Tá sé ag dúnadh .....  
Tá mé ag fáil céad punt .....  
Tá mise ag obair .....  
Cad é sin? .....  
Sin an madra .....  
Tá sé ag dul abhaile .....  
Cá bhuil tú ag obair? .....  
.....  
Cá bhuil tú ag dul? .....

Ceacht a Deich  
(Lesson 10)

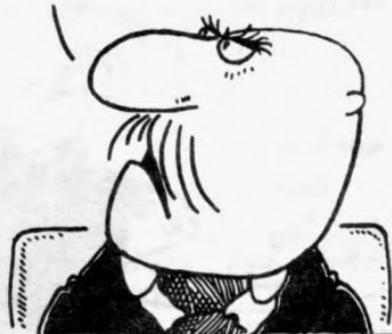
SA CHAIFE  
(In the Café)

Ar mhaith libh lón?  
Would you like lunch?

Níor mhaith, a amadáin.  
Tá sé a sé a chlog.  
No, you fool.  
It's six o'clock.



2 Agus ní maith liom tae. Ba mhaith liom caife.  
And I don't like tea. I'd like coffee.



3

Pictiúr



Níl an caife réidh go fóill.  
The coffee isn't ready yet.

4



Níl sé réidh? Nílimid ag teacht anseo arís.  
It isn't ready? We're not coming here again.

Ní maith liom arán agus im, agus ní maith  
liom císte milis, agus . . .

I don't like bread and butter, and I  
don't like cake, and . . .

scian agus forc

cupán



5

An maith leat rud ar bith?  
Do you like anything?

BAIGHAR  
(Menu)

Ní maith! Nílimid ag ithe anseo.  
No! We're not eating here.

40

Ní maith leis anraith  
agus ní maith léi  
arán tósta, agus . . .  
He doesn't like soup  
and she doesn't  
like toast, and . . .

1. siúcra
2. babbha
3. spúnóg
4. piobar
5. salann
6. crúiscín



7

Táimid ag imeacht. Táimid ag dul go  
dtí an teach ósta.  
We're going. We're going to the hotel.



Is maith liom—I like  
Is maith leat—you like  
Is maith leis—he/it likes  
Is maith léi—she/it likes  
Is maith linn—we like  
Is maith libh—you (pl) like  
Is maith leo—they like  
Ní maith liom—I don't like  
An maith leat . . . ? —Do you like . . . ?  
Yes—Is maith  
No—Ní maith

NOTE: I would *like* (Ba mhaith liom)  
(See page 26.)

lón—lunch	arís—again
amadán—fool	císte milis—cake
caife—café/coffee	árán tósta—toast
réidh—ready	ag ithe—eating
go fóill—yet/still	ag imeacht—going (away)

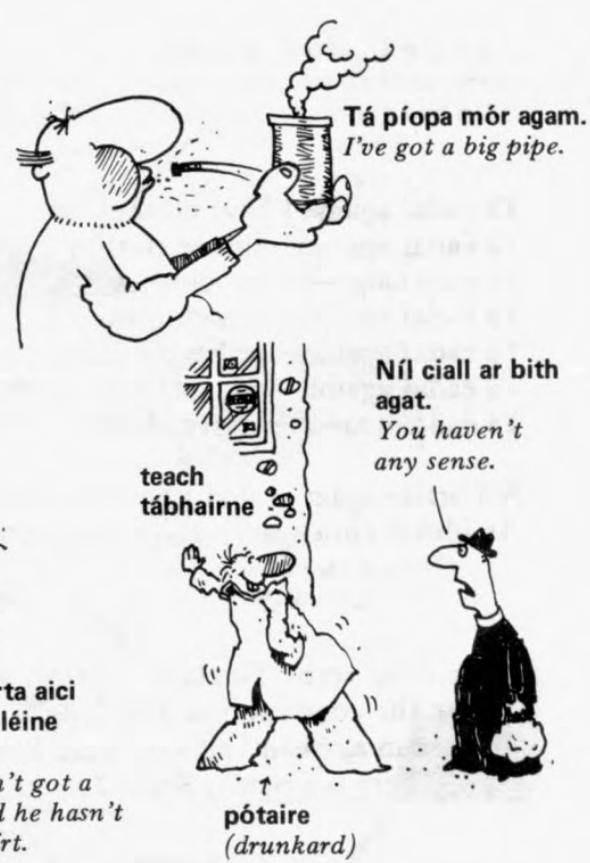
### ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

Ar mhaith leat tae?	.....
An maith leat tae?	.....
Ba mhaith liom tae	.....
Is maith liom tae	.....
Tá mé réidhanois	.....
Níl mé réidh go fóill	.....
Ní maith leis rud ar bith	.....
Tá mé ag imeacht	.....
Tá mé ag itheanois	.....

Ceacht a hAon Déag (Lesson 11)

AN CORP AGUS ÉADAÍ  
(The Body and Clothes)





Tá éadaí agam—I have clothes  
Tá éadaí agat—you have clothes  
Tá éadaí aige—he has clothes  
Tá éadaí aici—she has clothes  
Tá éadaí againn—we have clothes  
Tá éadaí agaibh—you (pl) have clothes  
Tá éadaí acu—they have clothes

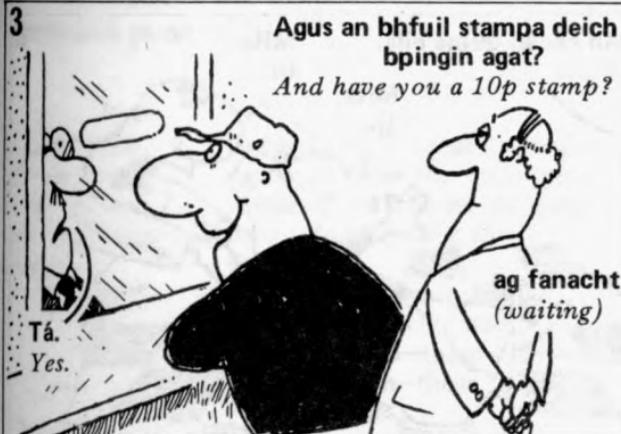
Níl bríste agam—I don't have trousers  
An bhfuil cóta agat? —Have you a coat?  
Yes—**Tá**  
No—**Níl**

There is no verb “To Have” in Irish.  
We use the construction **Tá . . . ag**  
“Tá peann ag Seán” means “Seán has a pen”  
(lit. “There is a pen at Seán”).

#### ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

Tá gruaig agam .....	
Níl cóta mór agam .....	
An bhfuil léine agat?	.....
An bhfuil ciall agat?	.....
Tá ceann mór aige .....	
Tá píopa aici .....	
An bhfuil culaith aige?	.....
Níl fiacla againn .....	

Cé mhéad atá ar leabhar stampai?  
How much is a book of stamps?



Teileafón

An bhfuil na stampaí seo ceart?  
Are these stamps correct?

Tá.

Yes.

5



Cad é tá cearr?  
What's wrong?

mála  
(bag)

Níl stampa ar an litir seo!  
There's no stamp on this letter!

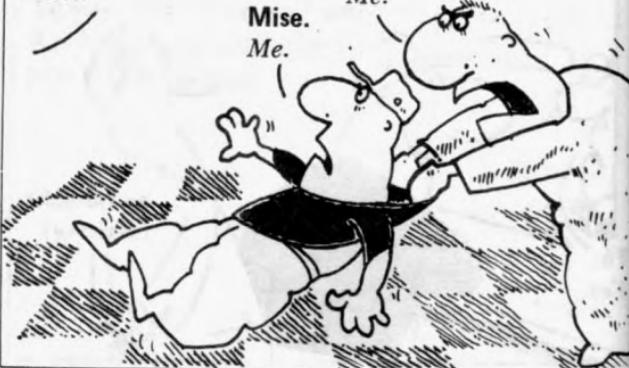
46

6

An chéad duine eile.  
Next.

Mise.  
Me.

Mise.  
Me.



fiche—20  
tríocha—30  
daichead—40  
caoga—50  
seasca—60  
seachtó—70  
ochtó—80  
nócha—90  
céad—100

These numbers take the singular,  
and don't affect the noun  
**seachtó punt—£70**

leabhar—book  
stampa—stamp  
in am—in time  
ceart—right/correct  
deas—nice

cad é tá cearr?—what's wrong?  
an chéad duine eile—next (person)  
an chéad rud eile—next (thing)  
mise—me (emphatic form)  
litir—letter  
an stampa seo—this stamp  
an stampa sin—that stamp  
na stampaí seo—these stamps  
na stampaí sin—those stamps

Adjectives in Irish are plural if the noun is plural.

**stampa mór**—a big stamp  
**duine beag**—a small person

**stampaí móra**—big stamps  
**na daoine beaga**—the little  
people (fairies)

## **ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE**

Cé mhéad atá ar stampa? .....

Cé mhéad atá ar an leabhar seo? .....

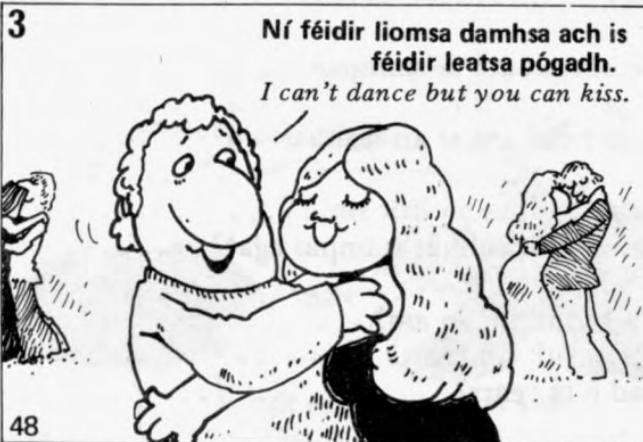
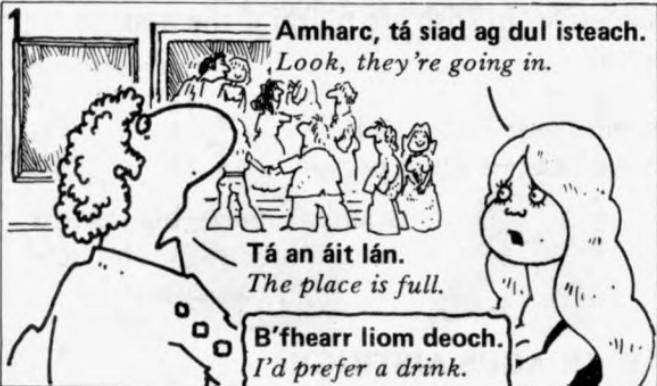
Tabhair dom an litir sin .....

An bhfuil leabhar stampaí agat? .....

An bhfuil mé in am? .....

An bhfuil sin ceart? .....

Cad é tá cearr? .....



2 Tá an deoch iontach daor.  
The drink's very dear.

Uisce  
beatha  
(whiskey)  
£1.50

Beoir £1.40  
(beer)

Vodca £1.50

Tá siad ag dul isteach go gast.  
They're going in quickly.

4 Is maith liom an damhsa seo.  
I like this dance.

caerde  
(friends)

An mbeidh damhsa eile again.  
Will we have another dance?

5 Ní féidir liom damhsa.  
I can't dance any more.

Beidh  
We'll

Is fearr leo bheith ag da.  
They prefer (to be) dancing.

Ní bheidh si.  
They won't.  
doesn't matter.

teach go gasta.  
quickly.

5 Ní féidir liom damhsa níos mó.  
*I can't dance any more.*

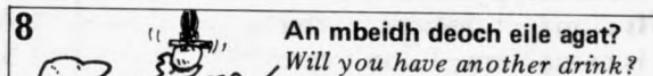


Beidh deoch againn mar sin.  
*We'll have a drink then.*

Ó, gabh mo leithscéal —  
**BEÁR**  
an bhfuil tú maith go leor?

*Oh, excuse me — are you all right?*

6



Is fearr leo bheith ag damhsa.  
*They prefer (to be) dancing.*



7

Ní bheidh siad sásta ach is cuma.  
*They won't be pleased but it  
doesn't matter.*



An mbeidh deoch eile agat?  
*Will you have another drink?*

Beidh, cinnte.  
*Yes indeed.*

49

**Amharc**—look

**áit**—place

**lán**—full

**deoch**—drink

**daor**—dear

**go gasta**—quickly

**damhsa**—dance

**póg**—kiss

**pógadh**—to kiss

**níos mó**—more/any more

**maith go leor**—all right

**sásṭa**—happy/satisfied

**Is cuma**—it doesn't matter

**Is cuma liom**—I don't care

**cinnte**—surely, indeed

**beidh**—will be (future of *tá*)

**Beidh mé/tú/sé/sí/sibh/siad**—

I/you/he/she/it/you/they will be

(\***beimid**—we will be)

**Tá pionta agam**—I have a pint

(See page 44.)

**Beidh pionta agam**—I'll have a pint

**an mbeidh tú?**—will you be?

**ní bheidh mé**—I won't be

Yes—**beidh**;

No—**ní bheidh**.

**Is féidir liom**—I can

**Is féidir leis**—he can

**liom, leat etc.** (See p. 41)

**An féidir leat . . . ?** — Can you . . .

**Ní féidir liom . . .** — I cannot . . .

Yes—**Is féidir**

No—**Ní féidir**

## ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

**Tá mé ag dul isteach . . .**

**An mbeidh deoch agat? Beidh . . .**

**Tá an áit seo iontach daor . . .**

**Ní féidir liom damhsa . . .**

**Ní bheidh sí sásṭa . . .**

**An bhfuil an deoch maith go leor? . . .**

Ceacht a Ceathair Déag  
(Lesson 14)

AG AN FHLEÁ  
(At the Party)

Ar thosaigh an fhleá go fóill?  
Has the party started yet?

1



Thosaigh.  
Tá gach duine  
ólta.  
Yes.  
Everybody's drunk.

2

Ar thosaigh sibh go luath?  
Did you start early?



"Thosaigh mise ar maidin!  
I started in the morning!"

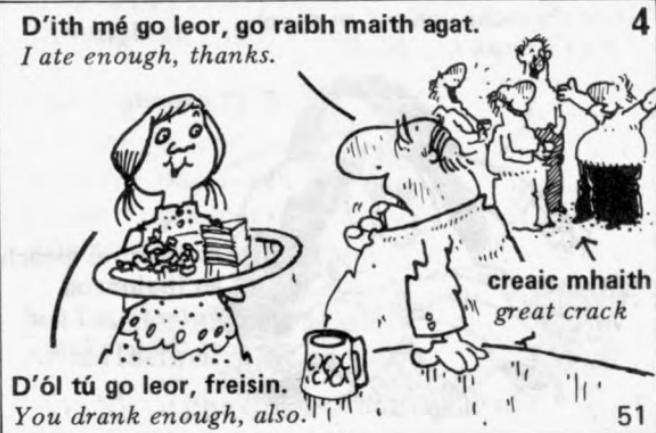


Ar ith tú rud ar bith?  
Did you eat anything?  
Níor ith go fóill.  
Not yet.

3

D'ith mé go leor, go raibh maith agat.  
I ate enough, thanks.

4



D'ól tú go leor, freisin.  
You drank enough, also.

creaic mhaith  
great crack

51



THE PAST

tosaigh—start  
tit—fall  
críochnaigh—  
ól—drink  
ith—eat

To form the ASPIRATE t with a vowel. Note. Negati-

nón chríoch-  
níor ól mé—I  
Ar thit tú? —I  
Ar ith tú? —D

Note. There is  
D'ólamar, d'it  
(See page 68.)

**Abair sin arís ar maidin.**  
Say that again in the morning.



## THE PAST TENSE

tosaigh—start	thosaigh mé—I started
tit—fall	thit mé—I fell
críochnaigh—finish	chríochnaigh mé—I finished
ól—drink	d'ól mé—I drank
ith—eat	d'ith mé—I ate

To form the PAST TENSE in Irish, simply ASPIRATE the ORDER FORM (if it begins with a vowel, prefix *d'*)

Note. Negative is '**níor**'. Question is 'Ar'. (with a vowel, drop the *d'*)

**níor chríochnaigh mé**—I didn't finish  
**níor ól mé**—I didn't drink  
**Ar thit tú?** —Did you fall?  
**Ar ith tú?** —Did you eat?

Note. There is a special form for 'we':  
**D'ólamar, d'itheamar.**  
(See page 68.)



fleá—party  
gach duine—everybody  
go luath—early  
ar maidin—in the morning/  
this morning  
go leor—enough

barraíocht—too much  
go léir—all  
grá—love  
arís—again  
fuinneog—window  
an fhuinneog—the window

## ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

Ar thosaigh sibh go fóill? .....

Thosaigh an fhleá ar maidin .....

Níor ith mé rud ar bith .....

D'ól mé go leor .....

D'ith mé barraíocht .....

Tá mé i ngrá leat .....

Abair sin arís, le do thoil .....

Níl Gaeilge mhaith agam .....

Ar chríochnaigh tú go fóill .....

Ceacht a Cúig Déag (Lesson 15) Cois na Farraige  
(At the Seaside)

Téim cois na farraige gach bliain.  
*I go to the seaside every year.*



Téimid leis.  
*We go with him.*

3 Déanann Máire gach rud.  
*Máire does everything.*



Ní dhéanaim rud ar bith.  
*I don't do anything.*

Bíonn sé i gcónaí mar an gcéanna.

*It's always the same.*

Ólaim cúpla pionta.

*I drink a couple of pints.*



Ólann sé barraíocht.  
*He drinks too much.*

Tosaíonn Máire ag troid liom.  
*Máire starts fighting with me.*

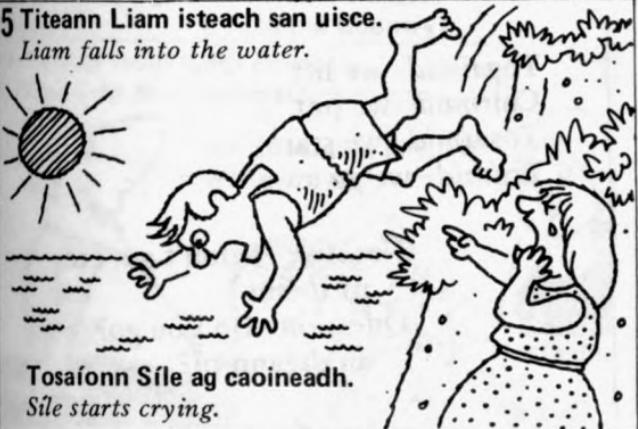
falsóir  
(lazybones)



Tosaíonn Síle ag caoineadh.  
*Síle starts crying.*

**5** Titeann Liam isteach san uisce.

Liam falls into the water.



Tosaíonn Síle ag caoineadh.

Síle starts crying.

**Bríseann Liam a chos.**

Liam breaks his leg.



**6** Tosaíonn Síle ag caoineadh.

Síle starts crying.

**Bíonn sé i gcónaí ag cur.**

It's always raining.



**7**

**Bíonn Síle i gcónaí ag caoineadh.**

Síle's always crying.

**Téimid abhaile sa deireadh.**

We go home in the end.



**8**

**Buíochas le Dia.**

Thank God.

**55**

## THE PRESENT TENSE

To say 'I begin', 'I break', etc. add an '*-im*' sound to the order form.

To say 'you begin', 'he begins', etc. add an '*-an*', sound and '*tú/sé*' etc.

To say, 'we begin', 'we break', etc. add an '*-imide*' sound. (of course, there are several ways of spelling all of these.)

**Tóg**—lift

**Tógaím**—I lift

**Tógaann sé**—he lifts

**Cuir**—put

**Cuirim**—I put

**Cuireann sé**—he puts

**Tosaigh**—start

**Tosáim**—I start

**Tosaíonn sé**—he starts

**Imigh**—go away

**Imím**—I go away

**Imíonn sé**—he goes away

**Tógaímíd**—we lift

**Cuirimíd**—we put

**Tosáímíd**—we start

**Imímíd**—we go away

Negative—I don't go, etc.

**ní théim**

Question—Do you go? etc.  
**an dtéann tú?**

**cois na farraige**—(to/at) the seaside

**blain**—year

**mar an gcéanna**—the same

**i gcnáil**—always

**Tá se**—He/it is (now)

**Bíonn sé**—He/it is (habitually)

**barraíocht**—too much

**rud ar bith**—anything/nothing

**dinnéar**—dinner

**ag troid**—fighting

**ag caoineadh**—crying

**ag cur**—putting/raining

**uisce**—water

**a**—his

## FAOIN TUATH (In the Country)

Rachaimid faoin tuath amárach.

We'll go into the countryside tomorrow.

An dtiocfaidh seisean?  
Will he come?

Tiocfaidh.  
Yes.  
(He will)

1



2

geata  
bó (cow)  
reithe  
caora

Feicfidh mé caoirigh den chéad uair.

I'll see sheep  
for the first  
time.

Feicfidh.  
Yes.

An bhfeicfidh?  
Will you?

3

na sléibhte  
loch

Feicfir na sléibhte,  
agus coill agus loch.  
We'll see the mountains,  
and a wood, and a lake.

4

Feicfidh mé na páirceanna.  
I'll see the fields.

Rachaidh mise isteach sa pháirc.  
I'll go into the field.

Tiocfaidh an firmeoir.  
The farmer will come.

57

Rachaidh miseanois.

I'll go now.

Fan bomaite, tiocfaidh mise leat.

Wait a minute, I'll come with you.

5



sráid

An dtiocfaidh sise linn?

Will she come with us?

cosc ar pháirceáil

(no parking)



Ní thiocfaidh,  
mo bhrón.

6 No, alas.



7 Cén uair a thiocfaimid go dtí an barr?

When will we come to the top?

Sasanach  
(Englishman)

Uair an chloig eile.  
Another hour.



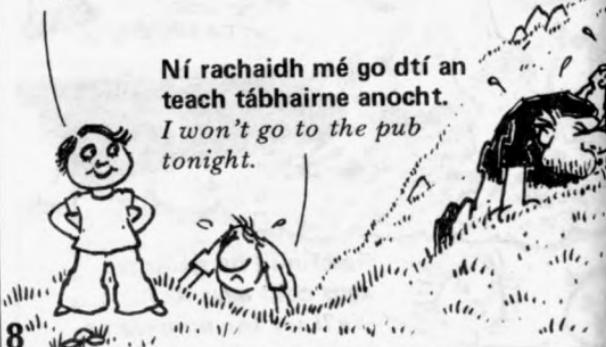
58

Ní thiocfaidh siad anseo arís.

They won't come here again.

Ní rachaidh mé go dtí an  
teach tábhairne anocht.  
I won't go to the pub  
tonight.

8



## THE FUTURE TENSE

Basically, add a *-bee* sound to the ORDER FORM.

Tóig—lift

Tóigfaidh mé—I will lift

Cuir—put

Cuirfidh mé—I will put

Ceannaigh—buy

Ceannóidh mé—I will buy

Imigh—go away

Imeoidh mé—I will go away

Question : An dtóigfaidh tú?—will you lift?

Negative : Ní thóigfaidh mé—I won't lift

The following  
are irregular:

rachaidh mé—I will go

rachaimid—we will go

tiocfaidh mé—I will come

tiocfaimid—we will come

feicfidh mé—I will see

feicfimid—we will see

faoin tuath—(in)to the countryside

caora—sheep (singular)

caoirigh—sheep (plural)

amárach—tomorrow

fan bomaite—wait a minute

barr—top

uair—time/hour

uair an chloig—hour

den chéad uair—for the first time

## ABAIR AGUS AISTRIGH/ SAY AND TRANSLATE

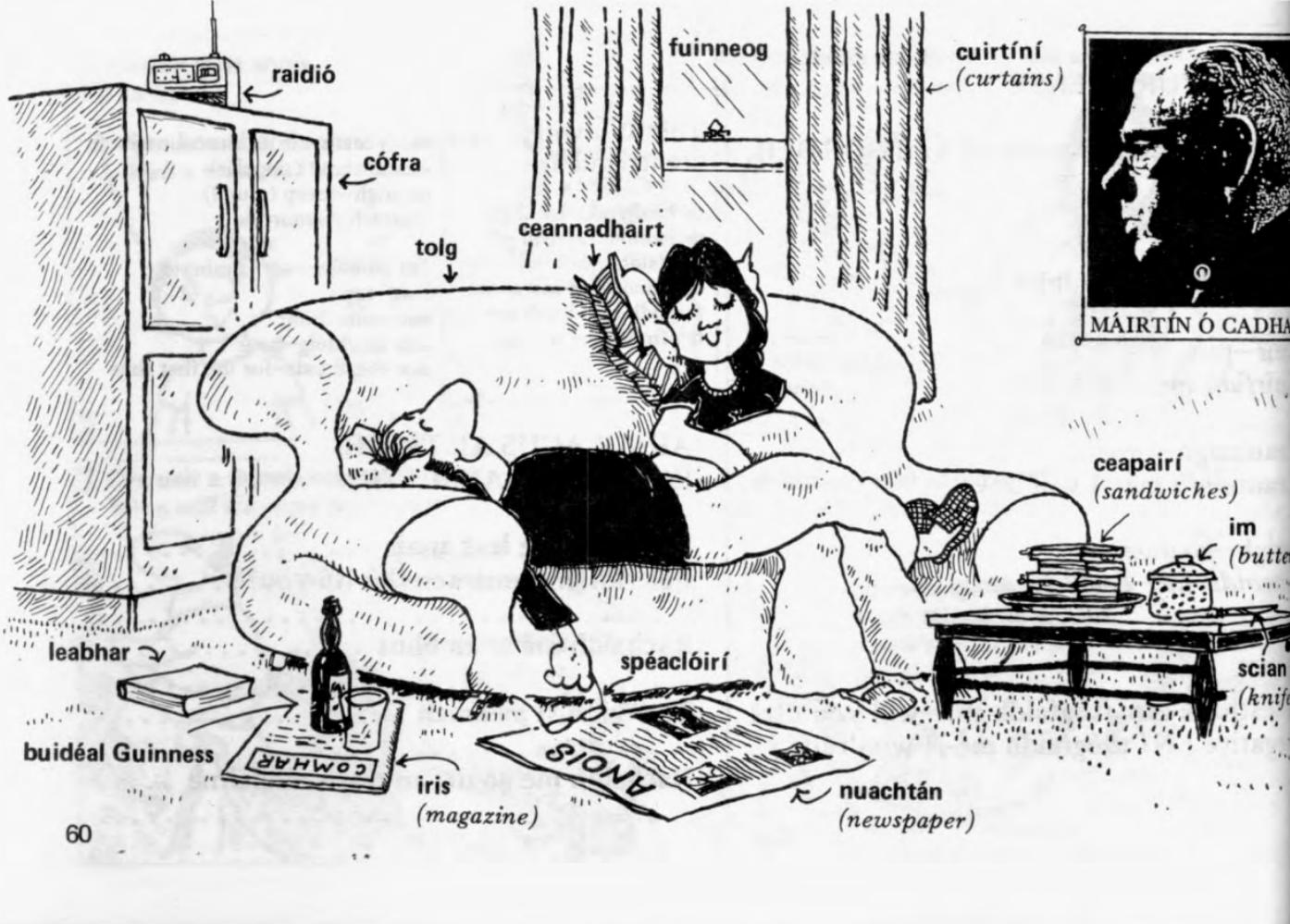
Tiocfaidh mé leatanois .....

Feicfidh mé amárachthú (tú—you) .....

Rachaidh mé ar an bhus .....

Tiocfaidh sí amárach .....

Rachaidh mé go dtí an teach tábhairne .....



BAIN TRIAIL AS DO  
DÉAN CUR SÍOS AR /

balla  
(wall)

Ceacht a Seacht Déag  
Sa Seomra Cónai (In the



MÁIRTÍN Ó CADHAIN

ceapairí  
(sandwiches)



scian  
(knife)

## BAIN TRIAIL AS DO CHUID GAEILGE DÉAN CUR SÍOS AR AN PHICTIÚR SEO

balla  
(wall)

clár teilifíse  
(TV programme)

bláthanna  
(flowers)

plocóid  
(plug)



Ceacht a Seacht Déag (Lesson 17)  
Sa Seomra Cónaí (In the Living-room)



Féilire

scáthán  
(mirror)

clog



cuileog  
(fly)

cat

tine  
(fire)

gual  
(coal)

Cé tá ar an teilifís anocht?

Proinsias Mac Aonghusa atá ar an teilifís.

Cá bhfuil an nuachtán?

Tá an nuachtán ar an urlár.

Cad tá sa nuachtán?

Nuacht!

Cad tá na páistí ag déanamh?

Tá siad ina luí.

## FREAGAIR

Cá bhfuil an cat .....

Cad tá an bheirt á dhéanamh ar an tolg? .....

Cá bhfuil "Comhar"? .....

An bhfuil gual ar an tine? .....

An bhfuil pláta ar an mbord? .....

An cailín deas í? .....

Cá bhfuil an pictiúr de Mháirtín Ó Cadhain? .....

An bhfuil an fear ar meisce? .....

An bhfuil sé ina luí? .....

Ar ith siad? .....

An bhfuil an cat ag ithe? .....

An mbeidh siad ag dul a luí? .....

# GRAMADACH

Grammar

# Uimhreacha

## Numbers

### COUNTING

1. a haon	20. fiche
2. a dó	30. tríocha
3. a trí	40. daichead
4. a ceathair	50. caoga
5. a cúig	60. seasca
6. a sé	70. seachtó
7. a seacht	80. ochtó
8. a hocht	90. nócha
9. a naoi	100. céad
10. a deich	1,000. míle
11. a haon déag	1,000,000. milliún
12. a dó dhéag	
13. a trí déag	£25 – cúig phunt is fiche
14. a ceathair déag	
15. a cúig déag	
16. a sé déag	
17. a seacht déag	
18. a hocht déag	
19. a naoi déag	

### COUNTING THINGS

pionta amháin  
dhá phionta  
trí phionta  
ceithre phionta  
cúig phionta  
sé phionta  
seacht bpionta  
ocht bpionta  
naoi bpionta  
deich bpionta  
aon phionta dhéag  
dhá phionta dhéag  
trí phionta dhéag  
ceithre phionta dhéag  
cúig phionta dhéag  
sé phionta dhéag  
seacht bpionta dhéag  
ocht bpionta dhéag  
naoi bpionta dhéag

### COUNTING PEOPLE

fear amháin  
beirt fhéar  
triúr fear  
ceathrar fear  
cúigear fear  
seisear fear  
seachtar fear  
ochtar fear  
naonúr fear  
deichniúr fear  
aon fhéar déag  
dáréag fear  
trí fhéar déag  
ceithre fhéar déag  
cúig fhéar déag  
sé fhéar déag  
seacht bhfear déag  
ocht bhfear déag  
naoi bhfear déag

# An tAm

## The Time

It is:

1. one o'clock — Tá sé a haon a chlog
2. two o'clock — Tá sé a dó a chlog
3. three o'clock — Tá sé a trí a chlog
4. four o'clock — Tá sé a ceathair a chlog
5. five o'clock — Tá sé a cúig a chlog
6. six o'clock — Tá sé a sé a chlog
7. seven o'clock — Tá sé a seacht a chlog
8. eight o'clock — Tá sé a hocht a chlog
9. nine o'clock — Tá sé a naoi a chlog
10. ten o'clock — Tá sé a deich a chlog
11. eleven o'clock — Tá sé a haon déag a chlog
12. twelve o'clock — Tá sé a dó dhéag a chlog

### Other useful words

minute—nóiméad/bomaite; mid-day—meán lae;  
mid-night—meán oíche; in the morning—ar maidin;  
in the afternoon—tráthnóna; at night—san oíche.

to: chun/go dtí

after: tar éis/i ndiaidh

5—cúig; 10—deich; 15—ceathrú (quarter); 20—fiche;  
25—fiche a cúig; half past—leath i ndiaidh or leathuair  
tar éis.

2.30	—	Tá sé leathuair tar éis a dó
3.15	—	Tá sé ceathrú tar éis a trí
7.45	—	Tá sé ceathrú chun a hocht
5.05	—	Tá sé cúig tar éis a cúig

*At six o'clock — ar a sé a chlog;  
At 7.10 — ar a deich tar éis a seacht.*

### How to ask:

What's the time? — Cén t-am é?  
or — Cad é an t-am atá sé?

# Questions

WHERE IS/ARE Cá bhfuil

Cá bhfuil mé anois? Where am I now?

WHERE WAS/WERE Cá raibh

Cá raibh tú inné? Where were you yesterday?

HOW Cad é mar (a)/conas (a)

Cad é mar a tháinig tú? How did you come?

Cad é mar a rinne tú sin? How did you do that?

Cad é mar atá tú? How are you?

WHAT Cad/Cad é

Cad é sin? What's that?

Cad é an t-ainm atá ort? What's your name?

WHEN Cén uair (a)

Cén uair a thosaigh tú? When did you start?

HOW MUCH/HOW MANY Cé mhéad

Cé mhéad sin? How much is that?

Cé mhéad atá anseo? How many are there?

WHY Cén fáth/cad chuige

Cad chuige sin? Why's that?

# Adjectives and Adverbs

Put the adjective AFTER the noun

fear mó�—a big man

After a feminine noun, aspirate

girseach dheas—a nice girl

Make an adverb by putting 'go' in front of the  
adjective

carr gasta—a fast car (adjective)

rith sé go gasta—he ran quickly (adverb)

You're supposed to put adjectives in the plural and  
genitive if the noun is in the plural or genitive. This  
is not necessary for basic communication and very  
complicated. Ignore it for the moment.

# Aspiration and Eclipse

One of the most confusing things for learners of Irish is the way the *beginnings* of words change. There are two kinds of change, aspiration and eclipse. Learn these basic rules and pick up the rest. You will usually be understood even if you get the grammar wrong.

ASPIRATION involves putting a 'h' after a consonant. This changes the sound of the consonant. See page 8.

## RULES FOR ASPIRATION

- A. Verbs
  - a. past tense
  - b. after **ní** (negative)
- B. Nouns
  - a. after **mo** (my), **do** (your), **a** (his)
  - b. feminine nouns after **an**
  - c. masculine nouns in genitive after **an**
  - d. after numbers: 2 - 6 (objects)  
 beirt (two people)  
 chéad (first)
  - e. after prepositions, except **ag**, **as**, **go**, **i**
  - f. after **a** (addressing somebody)
  - g. after (past tense of **is**) **ba**, **níor**, **ar**, **nár**
- C. Adjectives after feminine nouns (more or less)

## RULES FOR ECLIPSE

This involves replacing a letter with another one. Only the new letter is pronounced (exception 'ng').

p is eclipsed by b is eclipsed by m  
 t is eclipsed by d is eclipsed by n  
 c is eclipsed by g is eclipsed by n  
 f is eclipsed by bh  
 vowels are eclipsed by n-

VERBS are eclipsed after **an**, **nach**, **go** (that), **cá** (where), **sula** (before), **mura** (if not).

NOUNS are eclipsed after

- A. the numbers 7-10 (objects)
- B. after the preposition **i** (in)
- C. after **ár** (our), **bhur** (your pl.)  
 a (their)
- D. after **na** (the) genitive plural  
**seomra na mban** – the women's room

## Preposition & AN

In Ulster Irish, simple preposition + **an** ASPIRATE  
 In Connacht and Munster Irish, they ECLIPSE  
 /except **don** (to/for the); **den** (of the); **sa** (in the)  
 –These Aspirate.]

# Verbs

If you glance at a dictionary, you will see that there are two main forms of the verb in Irish:

- A. The Order Form (Imperative)
- B. The Verbal Noun

In most languages, the tenses are built on the infinitive. In Irish they are based on the Order Form.

The Verbal Noun supplies 1/the infinitive (e.g. to do)  
2/the -ing form (e.g. doing)

## THE PAST TENSE

The Past Tense is formed by aspirating the Order Form

Tosaigh—begin  
Thosaigh mé—I began  
Words beginning with a vowel or fh have a d prefixed  
ith—eat  
d'ith mé—I ate

Negative: *Níor thóg sé*—He didn't lift

Question: *Ar thóg sé?*—Did he lift?

Negative Question: *Nár thóg sé?*—Didn't he lift?

Also: murar—if not; sular—before

NOTE: d'ith mé, níor ith mé, ar ith tú, etc.

There is a special form for 'we' in the past tense. It is pronounced —amar, and spelt four different ways. (Verbs are divided into two CONJUGATIONS, and each Conjugation has two main groups.)

1st Conjugation : one-syllable verbs

- A. Broad e.g. tóg—lift (broad refers to the last vowel)
- B. Slender e.g. cuir—put
  - Thógamar—we lifted
  - Chuireamär—we put

2nd Conjugation : two-syllable verbs

- A. e.g. ceannáigh—buy
- B. e.g. bailigh—gather

There are two stages with these:

- 1/ The endings are lost
- 2/ New tense endings are added

- A. Cheannaíomar—we bought
- B. Bhailíomar—we gathered

## THE PRESENT TENSE

Each of the endings of the PRESENT TENSE has four different spellings.

I lift, sit, throw, etc. add *-im* sound to ORDER FORM

We lift, etc. add *-imidge* sound

For you, he, she, it, you(pl), they, add *-an* sound plus  
tú/sé/sí/sibh/siad.

For spellings, see table.

## THE FUTURE TENSE

Again, four spellings for each ending.

The basic ending is a *-hee* sound plus mé/tú/sé/sí/  
sibh/siad.

We will lift, etc. add *-himidge*

For spellings see table.

## NEGATIVE, PRESENT and FUTURE

ní (aspirates) ní cheannóidh mé sin—I won't buy that  
an (eclipses) an gceannóidh tú é? —Will you buy it?

## YES and NO

There are no two words in IRISH corresponding to 'Yes' and 'No'. You answer the verb in the same tense.

For example, if someone asks you: Ar tháinig tú Dé Luain? (Did you come on Monday?)

Yes is Tháinig

No is Níor tháinig

If someone says: An bhfuil tú tinn? (Are you sick?)

Yes is Tá.

No is Níl.

REGULAR VERBS	1st CONJ Broad e.g. Tóg (-lift)	Slender e.g. Cuir (-put)	2nd CONJ Broad e.g. Ceannaigh (-buy)	Slender e.g. Bailigh (-gather)
PAST (lifted) I etc. ! aspirate!  We <u>Autonomous:</u> was lifted ! aspirated!	Thgó mé/tú/sé/sí sibh/siad  Thgóamar  Tóghadh	Chuir mé/tú/sé/sí sibh/siad  Chuireamar  Cuireadh	Cheannaigh mé/tú/sé sí/sibh/siad  Cheannaíomar  Ceannaíodh	Bhaileigh mé/tú/sé/sí sibh/siad  Bhaileómar  Bailíodh
PRESENT (lifts) I You etc.  We <u>Autonomous:</u> is lifted, etc.	-aim  Tógaonn tú/sé/sí sibh/siad  -aimid -tar	-im  Cuireann tú/sé/sí sibh/siad  -imid -tear	-áim  Ceannaíonn tú/sé/sí sibh/siad  -áimid -áítear	-ím  Bailíonn tú/sé/sí sibh/siad  -ímid -ítear
FUTURE I, etc. (will lift)  We <u>Autonomous:</u> will be lifted, etc.	Tógfaidh mé/tú sé/sí/sibh/siad  -faimid -far	Cuirfidh mé/tú sé/sí/sibh/siad  -fimid -fear	Ceannóidh mé/tú sé/sí/sibh/siad  -óimid -ófar	Baileoidh mé/tú/ sé/sí/sibh/siad  -eoimid -eofar

With PAST TENSE use: níor (negative); ar (question); nár (negative question); gur (that);  
(all aspirate)

With other tenses use:      ní                          an                          nach                          go  
(ní aspirates, the rest eclipse)

IRREGULAR VERBS	PAST	(DEPENDENT FORM)	PRESENT	FUTURE	VERBAL NOUN	
Téigh (-go)	Chuaigh sé	ní dheachaigh sé	Téann sé	Rachaidh sé	(ag) dul	
Tar (-come)	Tháinig sé	níor tháinig sé	Tagann sé	Tiocfaidh sé	(ag) teacht	
Déan (-make/do)	Rinne sé	ní dhearna sé	Déanann sé	Déanfaidh sé	(ag) déanamh	
Tabhair (-give)	Thug sé	níor thug sé	Tugann sé	Tabharfaidh sé	(ag) tabhairt	
Faigh (-get)	Fuair sé	ní bhfuair sé	Faigheann sé	Gheobhaidh sé (ní bhfaighidh sé)	(ag) fáil	
Feic (-see)	Chonaic sé	ní fhaca sé	Feiceann sé	Feicfidh sé	(ag) feiceáil	
Ith (-eat)	D'ith sé	níor ith sé	Itheann sé	Íosfaidh sé	(ag) ithe	
Cluin/clois (-hear)	Chuala sé	níor chuala sé	Cluineann sé Cloiseann sé	Cluinfidh sé Cloisfidh sé	(ag) cluinstin (ag) cloisteáil	
Abair (-say)	Dúirt sé	ní dúirt sé	Déarfaidh sé	Deir sé	(ag) rá	
Beir (ar) (-catch hold of)	Rug sé (ar)	níor rug sé (ar)	Beireann sé (ar)	Neg: Níl sé Q: An bhfuil sé?	Béarfaidh sé (ar)	(ag) breith (ar)
Bí (-be)	Bhí sé	ní raibh sé	Tá sé	Present Habitual Bíonn sé	Beidh sé	bheith

# The Verbal Noun

This is a noun made from a verb. It is an important form, and can be made in about fourteen different ways. Pick them up as you go along. The most common way of forming the verbal noun is to add an *-oo* sound to the stem. The following list gives some of the most important verbal nouns:

## ORDER FORM

bris (break)  
stop (stop)  
gearn (cut)  
caoin (cry)  
cruinnigh (gather)  
socraigh (arrange)  
críochnaigh (finish)  
cuidigh (help)  
caith (throw, spend,  
wear)  
smaoinigh (think)  
déan (make/do)

## VERBAL NOUN

(ag) briseadh (breaking)  
(ag) stopadh  
(ag) gearradh  
(ag) caoineadh  
(ag) cruinniú  
(ag) so crú  
(ag) críochnú  
(ag) cuidiú  
(ag) caitheamh  
(ag) smaoineamh  
(ag) déanamh

léigh (read)	(ag) léamh
tabhair (give)	(ag) tabhairt
bain (cut/take)	(ag) baint
labhair (speak)	(ag) labhairt
oscaill (open)	(ag) oscallt
imir (play)	(ag) imirt
tiomáin (drive)	(ag) tiomáint
fág (leave)	(ag) fágail
tóg (lift)	(ag) tógáil
imigh (go away)	(ag) imeacht
fan (stay/wait)	(ag) fanacht
ceannaigh (buy)	(ag) ceannach
tar (come)	(ag) teacht
faigh (get)	(ag) fáil
ith (eat)	(ag) ithe
téigh (go)	(ag) dul
abair (say)	(ag) rá
iarr (ask)	(ag) iarraidh
inis (tell)	(ag) insint
tosaigh (begin)	(ag) tosú

Some verbs do not change at all:

rith (run); ól (drink); fás (grow); scríobh (write); troid (fight); foghlaim (learn).

## THE GENITIVE

This is a special form of the noun meaning 'of the'  
e.g. teach — house

fear

fear *an tí*—the man *of the house*

No matter how long you study Irish, the genitive will give you trouble. At this stage, aim to pick them up as you go along.

You have already met some in this book.

im—butter

punt ime—a pound of butter

arán—bread

builín aráin—a loaf of bread

bradán—salmon

canna bradáin—a tin of salmon

nuacht—news

páipéar nuachta—a newspaper

an post—the post

fear *an phoist*—the postman

Genitives are formed in several different ways. Some become slender, some add -e, some add -a, some don't change.

## THE ARTICLE WITH THE GENITIVE

With masculine nouns use *an* (aspirating) e.g. fear *an phoist*

With feminine nouns use *na* e.g. cois *na farraige*—the seaside

Here are some important genitives. Learn them.

an oíche—the night

láir na hóíche—the middle of the night

an t-airgead—the money

mo chuid airgid—my (share of) money

an bóthar—the road

trasna an bhóthair—across the road

tamall—a while

i ndiaidh tamall—after a while

an scoil—the school

chun na scoile—to school

obair—work

mo chuid oibre—my work

gruaig—hair

mo chuid gruaige—my hair

fearthainn—rain

ag cur fearthainne—raining

fiacail—tooth

tinneas fiacaile—toothache

seachtain—week

deireadh seachtaine—week-end

báisteach—rain

ag cur báistí—raining

fuil—blood

ag cur fola—bleeding

an bhliain—the year

tús na bliana—the beginning of the year

feoil—meat

píosa feola—a piece of meat

cara—friend

teach mo charad—my friend's house

an chathair—the city

láir na cathrach—the city centre

An Nollaig—Christmas

Oíche Nollag—Christmas Eve

ag) léamh  
ag) tabhairt  
ag) baint  
ag) labhairt  
ag) oscailt  
ag) imirt  
ag) tiomáint  
ag) fágáil  
ag) tógáil  
ag) imeacht  
g) fanacht  
g) ceannach  
g) teacht  
g) fáil  
g) ithe  
g) dul  
g) rá  
g) iarraidh  
g) insint  
g) tosú

all:  
ow); scriobh (write);  
).

# Some Plurals

There are as many ways of forming plurals as Verbal Nouns. Pick them up as you go along also. Here are some important ones.

SINGULAR	PLURAL
(an) duine (person)	(na) daoine
rud (thing)	rudaí
cara (friend)	cairde
siopa (shop)	siopáí
práta (potato)	prátaí
bean (woman)	mná
cailín (girl)	cailíní
buachaill (boy)	buachaillí
páiste (child)	páistí
lámh (hand/arm)	lámha
fear (man)	fir
ceann (head/one)	cinn
milseán (sweet)	milseáin
am (time)	amanna (sometimes)
át (place)	áiteanna
páirc (field)	páirceanna

ceacht (lesson)  
lá (day)  
oíche (night)  
bliain (year)  
míle (mile/thousand)  
céad (hundred)  
sliabh (mountain)

ceachtanna  
laethanta  
oícheanta  
blianta  
mílte  
céadta  
sléibhte

## THE ARTICLE

Use **an** with the singular and **na** with the plural  
(**na** with fem. genitive singular)

**an** aspirates feminine nouns, and masculine nouns in the genitive

(*an bhean*—the woman; *hata an fhir*—the man's hat)  
It prefixes **t-** to masculine nouns beginning with a vowel / e.g. *an t-úrlár*; but: *ar an urlár*  
*ag glanadh an urláir* (genitive) /

**na** normally does not affect nouns  
(prefixes **h** to vowels: *na húlla* — the apples)  
but eclipses the genitive plural  
(*seomra na mban*—the women's room)

# Prepositions

In Irish, simple prepositions combine with pronouns to make a single word:

ar (on) and mé (me) becomes orm

	ar(on)	le(with)	ag(at)	do(to/for)
me	orm	liom	agam	dom
you	ort	leat	agat	duit
him/it	air	leis	aige	dó
her/it	uirthi	léi	aici	di
us	orainn	linn	againn	dúinn
you(pl)	oraibh	libh	agaibh	daolbh
them	orthu	leo	acu	dóibh

See the pattern? All but the 3rd person plural and 3rd singular masculine follow it.

## SOME IDIOMS WITH PREPOSITIONS

1. Is maith le — like  
Is maith liom tae — I like tea
2. Ba mhaith le — would like  
Ba mhaith liom pionta — I'd like a pint
3. Is féidir le — can  
Is féidir liom siúl — I can walk
4. Tá . . . ag — have  
Tá airgead agam — I have money
5. Tá ocras orm — I'm hungry  
Feelings and emotions e.g. tart—thirst; fearg—anger; eagla—fear; brón—sorrow; áthas—joy; tuirse—tiredness, use this construction.
6. This construction obtains for illnesses also.  
Tá slaghdán orm — I have a cold
7. Tabhair do — give (to)  
Tabhair dom an peann — Give me the pen
8. Tabhair do — bring  
Tabhair leat é — take it with you

# FOCLÓIR

## Gaeilge-Béarla

## IRISH-ENGLISH VOCABULARY

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*b.*—feminine  
pl.—plural  
irr. vb.—irregular verb  
    (see p. 71)  
vb.—verb  
vb. n.—verbal noun

### A

**a**  
abair—say (irr. vb.)  
**abhaile**—home(wards) see **baile**  
ach—**but**  
ádh—luck  
    **ádh mó�**—good luck/goodbye  
ag—at  
    **agam**—at me, **agat**—at you,  
    **aige**—at him/it, **aici**—at her/it,  
    **againn**—at us, **agaibh**—at you,  
    **acu**—at them  
ag—prefix to verbal nouns (-ing);  
    **ag ól**—drinking  
ag: **tá . . . ag** (have)  
agus—and  
aimsir—weather  
aistrigh—translate  
áit *b.*—place  
am—time  
    **Cén t-am é?**—What time is it?  
    in am—in time

**amach**—out (moving)  
**amadán**—fool  
    a **amadáin**—you fool  
**amárach**—tomorrow  
an—the (singular)  
an—per/each  
    **punt an duine**—a pound per person (each)  
an (with verbs) question  
    **An bhuil tú?**—Are you?  
**anlann**—sauce  
**anocht**—tonight  
**anois**—now  
**anraith**—soup  
**anseo**—here  
**ansin**—there/then  
**aon**—one/any  
    **a haon** (number) one  
**ar**—on  
    **ar clé**—to the left; **ar chúl**—behind  
    **ar dheis**—to the right

árán—bread

buitín aráin—a loaf of bread;

árán tósta—toast

arís—again

as—from

amach as—out of

## B

ba—past tense of is (irr. vb.)

babhla—bowl

baile—home

sa bhaile—at home; chun an bhaile

(abhaile)—home(wards)

baile—town(land)

baile mór—town

bainisteoir—manager

bainne—milk

balla—wall

banana—banana

barr—top

barraíocht *b.*—too much

beag—small

béal—mouth

bean *b.*—woman pl. mná

beár—bar

beidh—fut. of tá (irr. vb.)

beoir *b.*—beer

bheith—to be

bíonn—pres. hab. of tá (irr. vb.)

bith: ar bith—any

blaincéad—blanket

bláth—flower pl. -anna

bliaín *b.*—year

blús—blouse

bó *b.*—cow

bolg—belly

bomaite—minute

bord—table

bosca—box

bradán—salmon

(go) breá—fine

brífeasta—breakfast

briseadh—change

bríste—trousers

bróg *b.*—shoe pl. -a

brón—sorrow

mo bhrón—alas

bruscar—rubbish

buatais *b.*—boot, pl. -í

buidéal—bottle

builín—loaf

mo builín aráin—a loaf of bread

búiochas le Dia—thanks be to God

búistéir—butcher

bus—bus

## C

cá—where

cá bhfuil?—where is?

cabáiste—cabbage

cad é—what

cad é sin?—what's that?

cad é mar—how

caife—café/coffee

cailín—girl

cairde: pl. of cara

cáis *b.*—cheese

canna—tin/can

caoga—fifty

ag caoineadh—crying

caora *b.*—sheep, pl. caoírigh

cara—friend, pl. cairde

carabhat—tie

carr—car

casóg *b.*—jacket

cat—cat

cathaoir *b.*—chair

cé—who

Cé sin?—Who's that?

cé mhéad—how much/many (singular)

Cé mhéad atá ar . . .?—How much is . . .?

céad—a hundred (singular)

an chéad—the first (aspirates)

ceann—head/one

mo cheann—my head

ceann amháin—one; dhá cheann—two

**an ceann sin**—that one  
 (=each) **punt an ceann**—a pound each  
**céanna**—same  
**mar an gcéanna**—the same (way)  
**ceannadhairt b.**—pillow  
**ceapaire**—sandwich pl. **ceapairí**  
**cearr**—wrong  
**ceart**—correct/right  
 (a) **ceathair**—(number) four  
**ceithre**—four (objects) (aspirates)  
**cén t-am?**—what time?  
**cén uair?**—when?  
**cérb as duit?**—where are you from?  
 an **chéad**—first  
 an **chéad duine eile!**—next! (person)  
 den **chéad uair**—for the first time  
**ciarsúr**—handkerchief  
**cinnte**—surely/indeed  
**cíoch b.**—breast  
**cíochbheart**—bra  
**císte milis**—cake  
**clár**—programme. **clár tellifise**—T. V.  
 programme  
**ar clé**—to the left  
**clog**—clock/bell  
 a **chlog**—o'clock  
 uair an **chloig**—an hour  
**cuas b.**—car  
**cófra**—cupboard  
**coil b.**—wood

**coirnéal**—corner  
**cois**—beside  
**cois na farraige**—(to/at) the seaside  
**compordach**—comfortable  
 i **gcónai**—always  
**corp**—body  
**cos b.**—foot/leg pl. a  
**cosán**—footpath  
**cóta**—coat.  
**cóta mó�**—overcoat  
**crann**—tree  
**creaic b.**—crack/good company  
**críochnaigh**—finish  
**crúiscín**—jug  
**cuid b.**—share/portion  
 cuid **mhór**—a lot  
**mo chuid airgid**—my (share of) money  
**cúig**—five (aspirates) a **cúig**—(number) five  
**cuileog b.**—fly  
**cuir**—put  
 ag **cur**—raining  
**cuirtíni**—curtains  
**ar chál**—behind  
**culaith b.**—a suit (of clothes)  
**cuma:** is **cuma**—it doesn't matter  
 is **cuma liom**—I don't care  
**cupán**—cup  
**cúpla**—a couple (singular)

## D

**daihead**—forty  
**damanta**—damned  
**damhsa**—dance; ag **damhsa**—dancing  
**daoine**—people, sing. **duine**  
**daor**—dear  
**dar Dia!**—by God!  
 ag **déanamh**—doing vb. n. of **déan** (irr. vb.)  
**déanann**—present tense of **déan** (do/make)  
 (irr. vb.)  
**dearg**—red  
**deas**—nice  
**deich**—ten (eclipses): a **deich**—(number) ten  
**sa deireadh**—in the end/at last  
**deoch b.**—a drink  
**dhá**—two (objects) (aspirates): a **dó**—  
 (number) two  
**Dia**—God  
 Dia duit—Hello : answer:—  
**Dia is Muire duit.**  
**Buiochas le Dia**—Thank God  
**dar Dia!**—by God!  
**go díreach**—exactly/indeed  
**do**—to/for  
 dom—to me; duit—to you; dó—to him/it;  
 di—to her/it; diúnn—to us; daoibh—to  
 you (pl.); dóibh—to them.  
**do**—your (aspirates)  
 a **dó**—(number) two

doras—door

duine—a person, pl. **daoine**

punt an duine—a pound each (person)

ag dul—going, vb. n. of téigh (irr. vb.)

dún—close

ag dúnadh—closing; **dúnta**—closed

## E

éadaí—clothes

éan—bird

eile—(an)other

pionta eile—another pint

## F

faigh—get (irr. vb.)

ag fáil—getting

fáiltel—welcome!

falsóir—lazybones

fan—wait/stay

ag fanacht—waiting

fan bomaithe—wait a minute

farráige *b.*—sea

cois na farráige—(to/at) the seaside

faoi—under/about

faoin tuath—in the countryside

fear—man

fear an tí—the man of the house

fearr: is fearr liom . . .—I prefer . . .

b'fhearr liom . . .—I would prefer . . .

féasóg *b.*—beard

feicfidh tú—fut. of feic (see) (irr. vb.)

féidir: is féidir liom—I can

féilire—calendar

féin—self/own

mo chóta féin—my own coat

mé féin—myself

feirmeoir—farmer

fiacula—teeth

fiche—twenty

fios—knowledge

níl a fhios agam—I don't know

fir—pl. of fear (man)

fleá *b.*—party

fobhriste—underpants

foghúna—petticoat

go fóill—yet/still

forc—fork

fosta—also

freisin—also

fuinneog *b.*—window

## G

gabh mo leithscéal—excuse me/pardon me

gach—every

Gaeilge *b.*—Irish

An bhfuil Gaeilge agat?—Do you speak Irish?

gaineamh—sand

gallúnach *b.*—soap

garda—guard

gasta—quick; go gasta—quickly

gealach *b.*—moon

geata—gate

gloine—glass

go (adverbial prefix)

gasta—quick (adjective); go gasta—quickly (adverb); go maith—well

go: go raibh maith agat—thank you

go: (in phrases) go díreach—indeed;

go dtí—to; go fóill—still/yet;

go léir—all; go leor—enough

grá—love

ingrá—in love

grian *b.*—sun

gruaig *b.*—hair

gual—coal

gúna—a dress

## H

hata—hat

## I

i **gcónaí**—always  
**im**—butter  
**imigh**—go away  
 imigh **leat!**—take yourself off!  
 ag **imeacht**—going away  
**iontach** (with adjective)—very  
 go **hiontach**—wonderful  
**iris b.**—magazine  
**is (agus)**—and  
**is**—one of the verbs ‘to be’ (irregular)  
**isteach**—in (going)  
**istigh**—in  
**ith**—eat (irr. vb.)  
 ag **ithe**—eating

## L

**lán**—full  
**lámh b.**—hand  
**lampa**—lamp  
**le**—with; **le do thoil**—please  
 liom—with me; **leat**—with you;  
 leis—with him/it; **léi**—with her/it;  
 linn—with us; **libh**—with you (pl.);  
 leo—with them  
**leaba b.**—bed  
**leabhar**—book; *pl.* **leabhair**

**leabharlann b.**—library  
**léine b.**—shirt  
**leithreas**—toilet  
**leithscéal**—excuse  
 gabh mo **leithscéal**—excuse me  
**go léir**—all  
**go leor**—enough  
**litir b.**—letter  
**loch**—lake  
**lón**—lunch  
**luach**—value/worth  
**luath: go luath**—early  
**luí:** ina luí—in bed (he/she/they)

## M

**madra**—dog  
**maidin b.**—morning  
 ar maidin—in the morning/this morning  
**maith**—good  
 go maith—well  
 is maith liom—I like  
 ba mhaith liom—I would like  
 maith go leor—all right  
**mála**—bag  
**mall**—late  
 go mall—slowly  
**mar**—as/because  
 cad é mar...?—how...?

**mar sin**—then (in that case)

**mar an gcéanna**—the same

**meacan dearga**—carrots

**méad:**

cé mhéad—how much/how many

cé mhéad atá ar...?—how much is...?

**measarta: go measarta**—fairly well

**milis**—sweet

**mise**—emphatic form of **mé** (mc)

**mná**—plural of **bean** (woman)

**mo**—my (aspirates)

**monarcha b.**—factory

**mór**—big

## N

**na**—plural of **an** (the)  
**naoi**—nine (eclipses); a **naoi**—(number) nine  
**naomh**—saint  
**níl**—(negative of **tá**)  
 níl a **fhios agam**—I don’t know  
**níos mó**—bigger/any more  
**nó**—or  
**nócha**—ninety  
**nuachtán**—newspaper

## O

ó—from (aspirates)  
**obair** *b.*—work  
 ag **obair**—working  
**ocht**—eight (eclipses)  
 a **hocht**—(number) eight  
**ochtó**—eighty  
**oíche** *b.*—night  
 oíche mhaith—good-night  
**oifig** *b.*—office  
**Oifig an Phoist**—Post Office  
**ól**—drink (vb.)  
 ag **ól**—drinking; **ólta**—drunk  
**olc**—bad  
 go **olc**—badly  
**oráiste**—orange  
**óstá** : teach **óstá**—hotel

## P

**páirc** *b.*—field, pl.—**eanna**  
**pictiúr**—a picture  
**pictiúrlann** *b.*—cinema  
**piobar**—pepper  
**pionta**—a pint  
**píopa**—pipe  
**piseanna**—peas  
**plámás**—flattery  
**plocóid** *b.*—plug  
**póca**—pocket

**póg** (vb.)—kiss  
 ag **pógadh**—to kiss  
**pótáire**—drunkard  
**práta**—potato; pl.—í  
**punt**—pound

## R

**rachaidh** : fut. of **téigh** (go) (irr. vb.)  
**raidió**—radio  
**réidh**—ready  
**reithe**—ram  
**roth**—wheel  
**rud**—thing, pl.—ai'  
 rud ar bith—anything

## S

sa—in the (aspirates) (**san** with vowels)  
**salach**—dirty  
**salann**—salt  
**saor**—cheap/free  
**Sasanach**—Englishman  
**sásta**—satisfied/pleased  
**scamallach**—cloudy  
**scáthán**—mirror  
**scian** *b.*—knife  
**sciorta**—skirt

**scornach** *b.*—throat  
**sé**—he/it  
**sé**—six (aspirates) a **sé**—(number) six  
**seacht**—seven (eclipses)  
 a **seacht**—(number) seven  
**seachtain** *b.*—a week  
 sa **seachtaein**—per week  
**seachtó**—seventy  
**seasca**—sixty  
**seilf** *b.*—shelf  
**seisean**—emphatic form of **sé** (he)  
**seo**—this/these  
 na **stampai seo**—these stamps  
 an **cailín seo**—this girl  
**seo**—here is  
 seo an t-uisce—here's the water  
 seo duit—here you are  
**seomra**—room  
 seomra **cónai**—living-room  
**sí**—she/it  
**sibh**—you (pl.)  
**sin**—that/those  
 an fear sin—that man  
 na **stampai sin**—those stamps  
**sin**—that is/there is  
 sin punt—that's a pound  
**singil**—single  
**síocháin** *b.*—peace  
**siopa**—shop pl. í  
**sise**—emphatic form of **sí** (she)

siúcra—sugar  
siúil—walk  
ag siúil—walking  
slán—good-bye  
sliabh—mountain; pl. sléibhte  
sna—plural of sa (-in the)  
spéaclóirí—glasses/spectacles  
spúnóg *b.*—spoon  
sráid *b.*—street  
sa tsráid—in the street  
srón *b.*—nose  
stampa—stamp; pl. -í  
stooa—sock; pl. í  
stól—stool  
subh *b.*—jam  
súil *b.*—eye; pl. -e  
suiochán—seat

## T

tá—is/are (irr. vb.)  
tabhair—give (irr. vb.)  
tabhair dom . . .—give me . . .  
tar—come (irr. vb.)  
te—hot  
teach—house  
teach tábhairne—pub  
teach ósta—hotel  
teach an phobail—church

ag teacht—coming (vb. n. of tar)  
(irr. vb.)  
téigh—go (irr. vb.)  
tháinig—came. past tense of tar (come)  
(irr. vb.)  
ticéad—ticket pl. ticéid  
tine *b.*—fire  
toil : le do thoil—please  
toit *b.*—smoke  
toitín—cigarette  
trá *b.*—beach  
(a) trí—three (aspirates)  
tú—you  
tusa—emphatic form of tú

## U

uair *b.*—time/hour  
céin uair (a) . . .—when . . .  
uair an chloig—an hour  
ubh *b.*—egg pl. uibheacha  
uimhir *b.*—number; pl. uimhreacha  
uisce—water  
uisce beatha—whiskey  
úll—apple pl. a  
urlár—floor

# **FOCLÓIR**

## **Béarla-Gaeilge**

## **ENGLISH-IRISH VOCABULARY**

A

**again**—arís  
**alas**—mo bhrón  
**all**—go léir  
**all right**—maith go leor  
**also**—fosta/freisin  
**always**—i gcónaí  
**and**—agus (is)  
**another**—eile  
**another pint**—pionta eile  
**any**—ar bith  
**anymore**—níos mó  
**anything**—rud ar bith  
**apple**—úll pl. -a  
**arm**—lámh b. pl. -a  
**at**—ag

B

<b>bad</b> —olc	
<b>badly</b> —go holc	
<b>bag</b> —mála	
<b>banana</b> —banana	
<b>bar</b> —beár	
<b>beard</b> —fásog b.	
<b>because</b> —mar	
<b>bed</b> —leaba b.	
<b>they are in bed</b> —tá siad ina luí (-lying down)	
<b>beer</b> —beoir b.	
<b>bell</b> —clog	
<b>belly</b> —bolg	
<b>behind</b> —ar chúl	
<b>beside</b> —cois	
<b>beside the fire</b> —cois na tine	
<b>big</b> —mór	
<b>bigger</b> —níos mó	
<b>bird</b> —éan pl. éin	
<b>blanket</b> —blaincéad	

## **blouse—blús**

<b>body</b> —corp
<b>book</b> —leabhar pl. leabhair
<b>boot</b> —buatais <i>b.</i> pl. -í
<b>bottle</b> —buidéal
<b>bowl</b> —babhlá
<b>box</b> —bosca
<b>bra</b> —cíochbheart
<b>bread</b> —árán
<b>breakfast</b> —bricfeasta
<b>breast</b> —cíoch <i>b.</i>
<b>bus</b> —bus
<b>but</b> —ach
<b>butcher</b> —búistéir
<b>by God!</b> —dar Dia!

C

**cabbage**—cabáiste  
**café**—caife  
**cake**—císte milis

calendar	-félire
can (tin)	-canna
can (able to)	-is féidir le . . .
Is féidir liom	-I can
car	-carr
care : I don't care	-is cuma lion
carrots	-meacan deargá
cat	-cat
chair	-cathaoir <i>b.</i>
change (noun)	-brisceadh
cheap	-saor
cheese	-cáis <i>b.</i>
church	-teach an phobail
cigarette	-toitín
cinema	-pictiúrlann <i>b.</i>
clock	-clog
o'clock	-a chlog
close	-dún
closing	-ag dúnadh; closed-
clothes	-éadaí
cloudy	-scamallach
coal	-gual
coat	-cóta
coffee	-caife
come	-tar (irr. vb.)
coming	-ag teacht
comfortable	-compordach
corner	-coirnéal
correct (right)	-ceart
country(side) : in the country-	

<b>couple</b> —cúpla (singular)
<b>cow</b> —bó <i>b.</i>
<b>crack (good company)</b> —creaic <i>b.</i>
<b>crying</b> —ag caoineadh
<b>cup</b> —cupán
<b>cupboard</b> —cófra
<b>curtains</b> —cuirtíní
<b>D</b>
<b>damned/damnably</b> —damanta
<b>dance</b> —damhsa
<b>dancing</b> —ag damhsa
<b>dear(expensive)</b> —daor
<b>dirty</b> —salach
<b>do</b> —déan (irr. vb.)
<b>doing</b> —ag déanamh
<b>dog</b> —madra
<b>door</b> —doras
<b>dress (noun)</b> —gúna
<b>drink (verb)</b> —ól
<b>drinking</b> —ag ól
<b>drunk : he is drunk</b> —tá sé ólta
<b>drunkard</b> —pótaire

D

E

<b>each</b> : a pound each—punt an duine ( <i>people</i> )
punt an ceann ( <i>things</i> )
<b>ear</b> —cluas <i>b.</i> pl. -a
<b>early</b> —go luath
<b>eat</b> —ith (irr. vb.)
<b>eating</b> —ag ithe
<b>egg</b> —ubh <i>b.</i> pl. uibheacha
<b>eight</b> —ocht (eclipses)
(number) <b>eight</b> —a hocht
<b>eighty</b> —ochtó
<b>end</b> : in the <b>end</b> —sa deireadh
<b>Englishman</b> —Sasanach
<b>enough</b> —go leor
<b>every</b> —gach
<b>exactly!</b> —go díreach!
<b>excuse me</b> —gabh mo leithscéal
<b>eve</b> —súil <i>b.</i>

F

**factory**—monarcha *b.*  
**fairly well**—go measartha  
**farmer**—feirmeoir  
**field**—páirc *b.* pl. -canna  
**fifty**—caoga  
**fine**—(go) breá  
**finish** (verb)—críochnaigh

fire—tine *b.*  
**first : the first**—an chéad (aspirates)  
     for the first time—den chéad uair  
**five**—cúig (aspirates)  
     (number) **five**—a cúig  
**flattery**—plátmás  
**floor**—urlár  
**flower**—bláth pl. -anna  
**fly** (noun)—cuileog *b.*  
**fool**—amadán  
**footpath**—cosán  
**for**—do (aspirates)  
**fork**—forc  
**forty**—daichead  
**four**—ceithre (aspirates)  
     (number) **four**—a ceathair  
**free**—saor  
**friend**—cara pl. cairde  
**from**—ó (aspirates)  
**from : where are you from?**—cérb as duit?  
**full**—lán

## G

**gate**—geata  
**get**—faigh (irr. vb.)  
     getting—ag fáil  
**girl**—caillín pl. -í  
**give**—tabhair (irr. vb.) do . . .  
     tabhair dom . . .—give me . . .

**glass**—gloine  
**glasses**—spéaclóirí  
**go**—téigh (irr. vb.)  
     going—ag dul  
     going away/leaving—ag imeacht  
**go away**—imigh (leat)  
**God**—Dia  
     thank God—buíochas le Dia  
     by God!—dar Dia!  
**good**—maith  
**good-bye**—slán/ádh mó�  
**good luck**—ádh mó�  
**good-night**—oíche mhaith  
**guard**—garda

## H

**hair**—gruaig *b.*  
     my hair—mo chuid gruaige  
**hand**—lámh *b.*  
**handkerchief**—ciarsúr  
**hat**—hata  
**have**—tá . . . ag . . .  
**he**—sé  
**head**—ceann  
**Hello**—Dia duit  
     Answer—Dia is Muire duit  
**here**—anseo  
**here is : here's the water**—seo an t-uiscé

**here is (handing something)**—seo duit . . .  
**home**—baile  
     at home—sa bhaile  
**home(wards)**—abhaile  
**hot**—te  
**hotel**—teach ósta  
**hour**—uair (an chloig) *b.*  
**house**—teach  
**how**—cad é mar  
**how much/many**—cé mhéad (singular)  
**hundred**—céad

## I

**in**—isteach (moving)  
     istigh (inside)  
**in the**—sa (singular) (aspirates)  
     'san' with vowels  
     sna (plural)  
**in(to) the**—isteach sa (aspirates)  
**indeed/surely**—cinnte/go thíreach  
**Irish**—Gaeilge  
     An bhfuil Gaeilge agat? —Do you speak  
     (have) Irish?  
**it**—sé (masculine words) / sí (feminine words)

## J

jacket—casóg *b.*  
 jam—subh *b.*  
 jug—crúiscín

## L

lake—loch  
 lamp—lampa  
 last : at last—sa deireadh  
 late—mall  
 lazybones—falsóir  
 left—clé  
     to the left—ar clé  
 letter—litir *b.*  
 library—leabharlann *b.*  
 like : I like . . .—is maith liom . . .  
     I would like . . .—ba mhaith liom . . .  
 living-room—seomra cónaí  
 loaf of bread—builín aráin  
 (a) lot—cuid mhór/a lán  
 love : in love with . . .—i ngrá le . . .  
 luck—ádh  
 lunch—lón

## M

magazine—iris *b.*  
 make—déan (irr. vb.)  
     making—ag déanamh  
 man—fear  
     the man of the house—fear an tí  
 manager—bainisteoir  
 many : see '(a) lot'  
 many : how many—cé mhéad (singular)  
 matter : it doesn't matter—is cuma  
 milk—bainne  
 minute—bomaithe  
 mirror—scáthán  
 moon—gealach *b.*  
 more—níos mó  
 morning—maidin *b.*  
     in the morning—ar maidin  
 mountain—sliabh pl. sléibhte  
 mouth—béal  
 much : how much—cé mhéad (singular)  
 much : too much—barraíocht  
 my—mo (aspirates)  
     my money—mo chuid airgid

## N

newspaper—nuachtán  
 next (person)—an chéad duine eile

nice—deas

night—oíche *b.*

good night—oíche mhaith

nine—naoi (eclipses)

(number) nine—a naoi

ninety—nócha

nose—srón *b.*

now—anois

number—uimhir *b.* pl. uimhreacha

## O

o'clock—a chlog

office—oifig *b.*

Post Office—Oifig an Phoist

on—ar

one—leabhar etc. amháin — one book

(named object)

(number) a haon

ceann, ceann amháin (un-named object)

that one—an ceann sin

or—nó

orange—oráiste

other—eile

overcoat—cóta mó�

out—amach (moving)

amuigh (outside)

out of—amach as

own; my own; my own coat—mo chóta féin

## P

**pardon me**—gabh mo leithscéal  
**party**—fleá *b.*  
**peace**—síocháin *b.*  
**peas**—piscanna  
**pepper**—piobar  
**per : a pound per person**—punt an duine  
**person**—duine pl. daoine  
**petticoat**—foghúna  
**picture**—pictiúr  
**pillow**—ceannadhairt *b.*  
**pint**—pionta pl. -í  
**pipe**—píopa pl. -í  
**please**—le do thoil  
**pleased**—sássta  
**plug**—plocóid *b.*  
**pocket**—póca pl. -í  
**potato**—práta pl. -í  
**portion**—cuid *b.*  
**pound**—punt  
**Post Office**—Oifig an Phoist  
**prefer : I prefer**—is fearr liom  
**I would prefer**—b'fhearr liom  
**programme**—clár  
**T.V. programme**—clár teilifíse  
**pub**—teach tábhairne  
**put**—cuir  
**putting**—ag cur

## Q

**quickly**—go gasta

## R

**radio**—raidió  
**raining**—ag cur  
**ram**—reithe  
**ready**—réidh  
**red**—dearg  
**right (correct)**—ceart  
**right : to the right**—ar dheis  
**room**—seomra  
**rubbish**—bruscar

## S

**saint**—naomh  
**salmon**—bradán  
**same**—céanna  
**the same (way)**—mar an gcéanna  
**sand**—gaineamh  
**sandwich**—ceapaire pl. -rí  
**satisfied**—sássta  
**sauce**—anlann  
**say**—abair (irr. vb.)  
**saying**—ag rá  
**sea**—farraige *b.*

**seaside : (to/at) the seaside**—cois na farraige

**seat**—suíochán  
**see**—feic (irr. vb.)  
**seeing**—ag feiceáil  
**self : myself**—mí é féin  
**seven**—seacht (eclipses)  
**(number) seven**—a seacht  
**seventy**—seachtó  
**share**—cuid *b.*  
**she**—sí  
**sheep**—caora *b.* pl. caoirigh  
**shelf**—seilf *b.*  
**shirt**—léine *b.*  
**shoe**—bróg *b.* pl. -a  
**shop**—siopa pl. -í  
**single**—singil  
**six**—sé (aspirates)  
**(number) six**—a sé  
**sixty**—seasca  
**skirt**—sciorta  
**slowly**—go mall  
**small**—beag  
**smoke**—toit *b.*  
**soap**—gallúnach *b.*  
**sock**—stoca pl. -í  
**sorrow**—brón  
**soup**—anraith  
**spectacles**—spéaclóirí  
**spoon**—spúnóg *b.*

**stamp**—stampa pl. -í

**stay**—fan

**staying**—ag fanacht

**still/yet**—go fóill

**stool**—stól

**street**—sráid b.

    in the **street**—sa tsráid

**sugar**—siúcra

**suit**—culaith b.

**sun**—grian b.

**surely/indeed**—cinnte

**sweet** (adjective)—mílis

## T

**table**—bord

**teeth**—fiacla

**television**—teilihís

**ten**—deich (eclipses)

    (**number**) **ten**—a deich

**thank God**—buóchas le Dia

**thank you**—go raibh maith agat

**that**—sin

**that man**—an fear sin

**that is . . .**—sin

**that's a pound**—sin punt

**the**—(singular) an

    (plural) na

**then**—ansin

**then (in that case/so)**—mar sin

**there**—ansin

**these**—na . . . seo

**these stamps**—na stampaí seo

**thing**—rud pl. -ái

**this**—an . . . seo

**this girl**—an cailín seo

**those**—na . . . sin

**those stamps**—na stampaí sin

**three**—trí (aspirates)

    (**number**) **three**—a trí

**throat**—scornach b.

**ticket**—ticéad

**tie**—carabhat

**time**—am/uair b.

**what time is it?**—cén t-am é?

**in time**—in am

**tin (can)**—canna

**to—go** (dtí)

**to : give to**—tabhair do . . .

**toast**—arán tósta

**toilet**—leithreas

**tomorrow**—amárach

**tonight**—anocht

**too/also**—fosta/freisin

**too much**—barraíocht

**top**—barr

**town**—baile mór

**translate**—aistrígh

**tree**—crann

**trousers**—bríste

**twenty**—fiche

**two (objects)**—dhá (aspirates)

    (**people**)—beirt (aspirates)

    (**number**)—a dó

## U

**under**—faoi

**underpants**—fobhríste

## V

**value**—luach

**very**—iontach

## W

**wait**—fan

**waiting**—ag fanacht

**wait a minute**—fan bomaithe

**walk**—siúil

**walking**—ag siúil

**wall**—balla

**water**—uisce

**weather**—aimsir b.

**week**—seachtain b.

**welcome!**—fáilte!

**well**—go maith

**fairly well**—go measartha

**what**—cad é

**what's that?**—cad é sin?

**wheel**—roth

**when**—cén uair (a) (question)

    nuair (a)

**where**—cá (question) (eclipses)

**where is?**—cá bhfuil . . . ?

**where are you from?**—cérb as duit?

**whiskey**—uisce beatha

**who**—cé

**who's that?**—cé sin?

**window**—fuinneog b. pl. -a

**with**—le

**woman**—bean b. pl. mná

**worth**—luach

**wonderful!**—go hiontach!

**wood** : a **wood**—coilí b.

**work**—obair b.

**working**—ag obair

**wrong**—cearr

## Y

**year**—bliain b. pl. blianta

**yet**—go fóill

**you**—tú

**your**—do (*aspirates*)

    —**your hair**—do chuid gruaige

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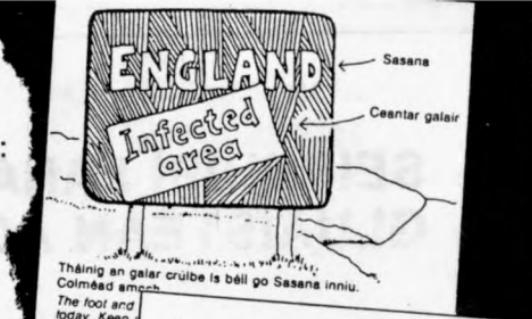
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- \* i ngnó leis an státhóras
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